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LD0908124188 [Editorial Report]

Iran-Iraq Conflict

The UN secretary general's announcement a cease-fire will take effect 20 August and direct talks will begin 5 days later was reported by both Tehran radio and INA.

Baghdad radio broadcast a statement by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's office declaring the next 3 days an official holiday to allow Iraqis to celebrate their "great victory." The radio also carried a "communique of all communiques" issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command, which likewise called on Iraqis to celebrate their "official dazzling victory," contending that Iran's decision to accept the cease-fire was the result of battles that rendered it "totally hopeless" in implementing its "slogans of expansion and aggression."

For Iran's part, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told journalists in New York that Iran will henceforth refrain from launching military action except in retaliation for any Iraqi operation, IRNA reported. Referring to "certain issues" raised by Iraqi officials in the course of the talks at the United Nations, Velayati reaffirmed Iran's adherence to the 1975 Algiers Accord, which "provides a good basis for solving the disputes."

On the location of direct talks, Velayati said he is ready to go to Baghdad at the UN secretary general's request. Velayati also called on the Security Council to take "immediate and effective" action against Iraq's use of chemical weapons (CW).

Among other Iranian reportage, Tehran radio cited the view of "experts" who believe Iran needs "international guarantees" to ensure Iraq's "aggression" against Iran is not repeated. In view of Iraq's "military and expansionist objectives" and its "breaches of promises," the experts contended, "the possibility of a decisive end to Baghdad's aggressive intentions does not exist." Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i likewise warned in earlier remarks cited by IRNA that Iraq's sincerity in accepting the UN resolution should be "doubted."

An Iraqi Kurdish opposition source predicted that the Iraqi Government will step up military operations against Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq as the Iran-Iraq cease-fire date approaches, IRNA reported. The agency cited a statement by the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) which asserted that 15,000 Iraqi troops began an offensive against KDP bases in Irbil Province 5 August. An "informed source" disclosed that Iraqi CW attacks in the area inflicted around 1,000 casualties on Kurdish fighters and civilians, the agency said.

Lebanon

Israeli warplanes launched an air raid over areas east of Sidon 9 August, Beirut radio announced. Four planes bombed Palestinian positions in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah camps and in the 'Ayn al-Dulb area, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. An IDF spokesman confirmed the attack, stating Israeli planes attacked a Fatah "terrorist base" housing a radio station that broadcast "propaganda and instigatory material," IDF radio stated.

Israel

The director of the Prime Minister's Office decried the Egyptian position on Tabah as "intransigent and rigid" and said a "stalemate" emerged at the end of the first round of talks, IDF and Jerusalem radios reported. Yosi Ben-Aharon said Egypt's "flexibility" on the issue is "unacceptable" and "very far from meeting our needs." If Egypt persists, "we will pack our suitcases and go back to Israel," he threatened.

The USSR has agreed to upgrade "commercial ties" with Israel before diplomatic relations are established, according to a Chamber of Commerce official cited by Jerusalem radio. His remarks have not been confirmed, the radio stated.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said the Mideast peace process will remain in a "deep freeze" until after the U.S. and Israeli elections, the radio reported. Rabin said he opposed putting Palestinian activist Faysal al-Husayni on trial and would "insist" he be kept in administrative detention, the radio added. Rabin claimed Al-Faysal is possibly the "PLO's No 1 man" in the occupied territories and called that the "sole reason" for his detention.

The civil administration has banned the distribution of the pro-PLO newspaper AL-FAJR for 2 weeks because it "disregarded censorship regulations," according to Jerusalem radio.

Jordan

Husayn-Al-Asad Talks—King Husayn returned to Jordan after an 8 August working visit to Damascus, where he held talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the Arab-Israeli conflict, Arab and regional developments, and issues of common concern, Amman radio reported.

Elections, Passports—General elections for the East Bank will not be held until the 1986 election law is amended in accordance with the measures to disengage ties with the West Bank, Interior Minister Raja'i al-Dajani disclosed in a statement to AL-RA'Y. Voters in refugee camps will be incorporated within other electoral

constituencies, he noted. In another development, Al-Dajani told Radio Monte Carlo Jordan no longer views West Bank Palestinians as Jordanian citizens, stressing their Jordanian passports are "no more than travel documents."

PLO Affairs

The formation of a government-in-exile is now "under consideration" and the PNC will have the final say on this matter, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat disclosed at a press conference in Kuwait reported by KUNA. 'Arafat also noted the PLO has decided to send Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas to Amman if the Jordanians are ready to begin talks with the PLO on their decision to break legal and administrative ties with the West Bank.

Regarding the possibility of talks in Cairo between U.S. envoy Richard Murphy and a Palestinian delegation, Palestinian sources cited by WAKH said the PLO is insisting that the Palestinian delegation should include Nabil Sha'th, a PNC member and adviser to 'Arafat. If this is rejected by the Americans, the sources added, the PLO will not give any Palestinian personality authority to meet U.S. officials.

Iraqi-Arab Relations

After meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in Cairo, Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan noted he gave Mubarak a message from Saddam Husayn on bilateral relations, Cairo radio reported. Ramadan said he conveyed Iraq's desire to promote these relations in all fields and its "appreciation" for Egypt's stand in support of Iraq.

In another development, INA cited a commentary on Syrian President al-Asad by its political editor, who "vehemently assailed" the Syrian leader's policies on Lebanon, Palestine, and Iraq, asserting that this "traitor" will now "lose his mind" because of Iraq's "victory" in the Gulf war.

Soviet Messages

"Soviet leaders" sent "urgent" messages 7 August to PLO leader 'Arafat and Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, according to Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio and MENA. The message to 'Arafat concerned convening an international peace conference, WAKH disclosed. USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's message to 'Abd al-Majid dealt with regional issues and the outcome of the USSR's talks on the Middle East with the United States in Geneva, MENA added.

Libya-Tunisia

Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali departed Libya 8 August after a 3-day visit with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, JANA reported. In a predeparture statement, Ben Ali praised the "prevailing spirit of frankness" in the discussions, JANA added. A joint communique issued by the two countries expressed "contentment" with the current state of relations and emphasized their determination to clear them of "all the negative effects of the past," JANA noted. The communique detailed several agreements signed during the visit in the areas of water, fishing, agriculture, information, and health.

At a signing ceremony, Al-Qadhdhafi said the two countries would unite to fight the "odious and evil forces," led by the United States, that seek to interfere with their internal affairs, Tripoli television indicated. Al-Qadhdhafi said the "lines of battle should be drawn" in the Arab fight to overcome backwardness "by our own free will." He said Libya seeks peace with the West but "categorically rejects" its "unjust and hostile policies."

Sudan

A Sudanese Government official said 1 million people were left homeless after heavy rain caused widespread flooding, Addis Ababa radio reported. Khartoum and other cities were declared disaster areas after heavy flooding killed 11 and injured dozens more, according to Nairobi radio. The Supreme Council appealed to the international community for relief aid, KUNA noted.

Afghanistan

Soviet troops began withdrawing from Kabul 8 August "in accordance with the Geneva accords," Kabul radio announced. The withdrawal is being carried out according to a plan with "military, political, and technical aspects," Moscow television disclosed.

Two Afghan Air Force pilots landed their MiG-19 aircraft 8 August in northern Pakistan and requested political asylum, AFP reported. The two pilots said they were on a bombing mission in Afghanistan and defected for religious reasons, according to rebel sources cited by AFP.

Pakistan summoned the Afghan charge in Islamabad and lodged a complaint that three Afghan aircraft bombed villages in Waziristan, killing four Afghan refugees, Islamabad radio announced.

Security forces "recently" purchased four missiles and other weapons from "armed opposition groups" in Balkh Province, Kabul radio disclosed. "Extremist leaders" brought the missiles into the country "to shoot down civilian airliners," according to a BAKHTAR correspondent cited by the radio.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Session on PLO Camps Postponed

LD0908095988 Kuwait KUNA in English 0917 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Tunis, 9 Aug (KUNA)—It was announced here today that the emergency meeting of the Arab League Council scheduled for 11 August to discuss the conditions in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon has been postponed.

A responsible source at the Arab League Secretariat told KUNA here today that the meeting, which the PLO called for on 12 July, was postponed because of the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war and other commitments of the Arab League's secretary general, who is currently in the United States along with a number of Arab foreign ministers to follow up the developments of the war.

The source stated that a new date will be set during the next 10 days and speculated that the meeting will be held in a (?separate) session during the Council's ordinary session this September.

The Palestinian Liberation Organization called for this meeting last July following the fall of Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps in the hands of the splinters from Fatah movement and the evacuation of pro-'Arafat forces from the two camps.

Palestinian Affairs

Palestinian State 'Only a Matter of Time'

JN0708064088 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0600 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has stated that the establishment of the Palestinian state is only a matter of time.

In a statement to Bulgarian television, 'Arafat said: We will soon raise our flag over East Jerusalem, our future capital. 'Arafat added: We have reached the last phase of our struggle.

'Arafat's statement was made at the conclusion of his 2-day visit to Bulgaria.

Government-in-Exile Said 'Under Consideration'

LD0808203088 Kuwait KUNA in English 1934 GMT 8 Aug 88

[By Shamel Khayri]

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 8 (KUNA)—PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat announced here Monday that formation of the Palestinian government-in-exile was now under consideration and the Palestine National Council is the party to have the final say on this matter.

'Arafat, in a press conference here tonight, said that the PNC, the Palestinian parliament in exile, should discuss the matter in detail in addition to the Palestine Liberation Organization's Executive Committee.

He, meanwhile, described the Jordanian monarch King Husayn's decision to break up all legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank as "a legal disengagement with numerous dimensions on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels." He affirmed that the PLO will shoulder "all responsibilities resulting from the Jordanian monarch's decision."

The Palestinian leader declared that the organization had decided to dispatch Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas (better known as Abu Mazin) to Jordan if Amman was ready to open discussions into the Jordanian decision. If otherwise, Abu Mazin will not travel to Jordan," 'Arafat pointed out.

'Arafat hailed the stance of h.h. the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, who received him earlier today, and added "I have talked with h.h. the amir in his capacity as chairman of the Islamic Conference and as one of the Arab leaders that the Palestinian people cherish."

He said that "h.h. the amir's position was clear and frank. He told me that Kuwait, people, government and amir, back the Palestinian people and their just struggle on all levels and I thank h.h. for his principled stance."

On the possibility that Egypt would adopt a similar step to that of Jordan, 'Arafat explained that the Gaza Strip is partially different from the West Bank as Gaza was in Egypt's custody and there were no legal ties between them from the start and it retained its Palestinian identity.

Asked whether the Iraq-Iran war came to an end as a result of an agreement between the superpowers, 'Arafat emphasized that the Gulf war ended because Iraq scored a military victory.

Following the conference the PLO chief met with popular Palestinian leaderships here for discussions on latest Palestinian, Arab and international developments.

'Abd Rabbuh Denies Intention To Form Government

JN0808180088 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 7 Aug 88 pp 1, 14

[Text] Tunis, AL-BAYAN—PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh denied reports on the intention of the PLO to form a government-in-exile. He also denied the Palestinian leadership has agreed to the Jordanian measures that followed the declaration of disengagement between Jordan and the West Bank.

Regarding the PLO's assesment of the Jordanian resolutions, 'Abd Rabbuh said: There are positive points in the Jordanian recognition of the PLO as responsible for its people and for the decision regarding the future of the occupied territories without any interference from any Arab side. But this recognition should not mean that any Arab country should give up its responsibility in supporting the Palestinian struggle.

He noted that the Rabat summit's resolutions clearly state that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He also said the most important aspect of this subject is the political one.

Voicing the PLO's welcome for the Jordanian resolutions, he said: Jordan is not the homeland of the Palestinians, nor is it their representative. Their homeland is on their soil and their representative is the PLO, as was affirmed by the popular uprising.

He pointed out the PLO is now studying a step to announce a Palestinian option for the solution that will lead to the establishment of an independent state in harmony with Arab summit resolutions, particularly those of Fes and Algiers, and in harmony with the resolutions of the United Nations connected with the Palestine question and the Middle East problem.

He added the PLO now feels more responsibilities and will surely be up to the level expected from it. He said there is nothing that will limit the PLO's political moves to achieve independence for the Palestinian people and victory for the uprising.

Regarding the decision to convene an extraordinary session of the PNC, the PLO Executive Committee member said the PLO is seeking to convene the PNC extraordinary session and that a serious discussion will be held regarding the Palestinian option in the future. This should be based on the fact that the PLO is the side which is politically responsible and it will behave according to this responsibility. It will face and shoulder what the national duty dictates on it to support the uprising.

Regarding the possible agenda and venue for the PNC, 'Abd Rabbuh said: It will be held within a month in Baghdad after Iraq has welcomed its convening in Baghdad. The subject of the government-in-exile is premature and the PLO is the side responsibile until the end. [sentence as published]

He also said: The government may be formed when independence is very near to shoulder the responsibilities resulting from independence. He said it is still too early to talk about this subject, but every Palestinian individual and institution has the right to discuss it.

Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh also dealt with the current Palestinian-Jordanian contacts. He pointed out there are contacts between those [PLO officials] resident in Jordan and the Jordanian officials to clarify certain issues. He asserted these contacts are enough at this stage.

Answering a question on the possibility of 'Arafat making his expected visit to Jordan, the PLO Executive Committee member said: The visit will not take place now. It will be determined in light of the results of the contacts that are being conducted now with the Jordanian Government.

He added the PLO should know what the Jordanian Government wants. He pointed out the PLO does not want anybody to shoulder more burdens than they could bear.

He said: However, danger against Jordan still exists, particularly from the Zionist parties which have the occupation of the East Bank [of Jordan] on their election programs. Jordan should support the Palestinian struggle because it forms a forward trench that protects the Arab nation and Jordan from the dangers of this expansion.

'Arafat Receives Message From Soviet Leaders

JN0708110688 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (WAKH)—PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat received here today a message from the Soviet leaders on the contacts currently being held regarding the convening of an international Mideast peace conference.

The WAKH correspondent in Baghdad has learned from reliable Palestinian sources that the message, which was conveyed by Soviet Ambassador in Baghdad Viktor Minin, dealt with the talks held by Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern and North African Countries Administration at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, in Geneva at the end of last month on the convening of the international conference.

These sources described the message as "very important" and said it contained new steps in the Soviet Union's support for the struggle being waged by the Palestinian people and their right to self-determination.

'Arafat had arrived in Baghdad yesterday at the conclusion of a short visit to Bulgaria during which he held talks with Bulgarian officials.

The sources added the message also dealt with international efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war.

It is to be recalled that Yuliy Vorontsov, Soviet first deputy foreign minister, informed the Palestinian leader on a previous occasion of his country's continued support for the Palestinian cause in the international arena

and also of its efforts with the U.S. Administration to remove all the obstacles which are hindering the convocation of an international conference.

Hawatimah Warns of Jordanian Economic Measures
JN0708122588 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1035 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Damascus, 7 Aug (WAKH)—DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah has affirmed that the latest Jordanian measures on the disengagement of the legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank came as a result of the popular Palestinian uprising and the resolutions adopted at the Algiers Arab summit which reasserted that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Hawatimah described the dissolution of the Jordanian parliament as a step in the right direction. However, he warned against the dangers of Jordan taking economic and social measures which might lead to weakening the uprising, considering the intermingling and association of the economic and social interests of both the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples in light of their distinguished relations.

In a statement to QNA carried today, Nayif Hawatimah pointed out that the PLO Central Committee discussed in detail the Jordanian measures during its recent meeting in Baghdad and affirmed the PLO's readiness to shoulder its responsibilities toward the Palestinian people in accordance with what is enshrined in the PLO's program and the resolutions adopted at both the Rabat and Algiers summits.

Nayif Hawatimah criticized the plan put forward by U.S. Secretary fo State George Shultz and emphasized it seeks to liquidate the cause. He voiced pessimism over the possibility of a successful outcome of the tour of the region by Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, contending it has continued to revolve within the framework of the Shultz plan which does not recongize the PLO.

He reiterated that the Palestinian uprising leaders have decided to boycott Murphy and not to meet him during his visit to occupied Palestine.

On Syrian-PLO relations, Hawatimah called for the immediate launching of efforts and dialogue to bring about reconciliation between the two parties for the sake of coordinating joint Arab action and enhancing Arab action and solidarity in the face of the Israeli aggression in implementation of the Algiers summit resolutions.

'Arafat Visit to Jordan Said 'Imminent'
JN0808091988 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 8 Aug 88 pp 1, 16

[By Sa'd al-Silawi]

[Text] Amman—Rafiq al-Natshah, member of the PLO Executive Committee, has affirmed the PLO's concern about the brotherly distinguished relations with Jordan under His Majesty King Husayn.

In an exclusive statement to SAWT AL-SHA'B, Al-Natshah said the historic relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples are so strong that the two peoples can only be one family linked by joint history and destiny.

Rafiq al-Natshah announced that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will pay an imminent visit to Jordan aimed at joint coordination between Jordan and the PLO in light of the recent developments.

Al-Natshah said a Palestinian delegation under PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, also known as Abu Mazin, will arrive in Amman within the next 2 days in preparation for Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat's] visit to Jordan. He said the delegation will discuss with Jordanian officials Jordanian-Palestinian relations and means to bolster them to achieve the joint interest of the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples within the framework of the PLO's insistence on extending bridges and establishing complete cooperation with the Jordanian Government and bolstering the brotherly relations to support the Palestinian Arab people in their valiant uprising.

Al-Natshah said the PNC will hold an extraordinary session to decide PLO political action in the next phase.

Palestinians Reportedly Nominated To Meet Murphy
JN0808095288 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0910 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Dubayy, 8 Aug (WAKH)—Well-informed Palestinian sources have said that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has received a list of three Palestinian personalities nominated to meet with Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, who is in occupied Palestine now and scheduled to arrive in Cairo tomorrow.

The Dubayy-based AL-BAYAN today cited these sources as saying these personalities nominated by the PLO for this meeting are: Nabil Sha'th, PNC member and a political adviser to the PLO chairman; Hanna Sinyurah, chief editor of the Jerusalem-based AL-FAJR; and Edward Sa'id or Ibrahim Abu Lughod. The sources added Egyptian officials are holding intensive contacts with the U.S. ambassador in Cairo to agree on the arrangements of the meeting.

The Palestinian sources added the PLO insists, in particular, on the participation of Nabil Sha'th in the Palestinian delegation. If this is rejected, the PLO will not give any Palestinian personality the green light to meet American officials.

Al-Quds Radio Says No Palestinian To Meet Murphy

JN0708091588 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1510 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Article by the Radio's Political Editor: "Murphy's Tour: One Person Cannot Rectify What has Been Ruined Through the Ages"]

[Text] Murphy is in the region. Every Arab citizen can hear this piece of news on every news broadcast on all Arab and foreign radio stations. Mr Murphy is considered an American expert on the affairs of the region. He has friends and precedents in the region. Murphy has an opinion on how the Americans should deal with the settlement in the region. He also has his specific way of holding political discussions with the Arab officials he meets with.

The U.S. envoy wants to achieve through his present tour, in addition to the issue of U.S. presidential elections, the following points:

1. He insists, backed by the U.S. Government, on not allowing the region to live in a state of vacuum as far as political activity is concerned. Therefore, the new U.S. move remains within this framework.

2. He insists, that is Murphy and his administration, on giving the friends of the United States the idea the United States will not leave them and that it continues its action and contacts so these friends will not get the same idea they started to get during the Algiers summit.

This idea is, in short, that the United States does not keep promises, lies, changes color, and cannot be trusted with any of its promises.

3. Murphy and the whole of his administration want to keep the region within the framework of a settlement based on surrendering to the U.S. option where they do not leave anyone any choice to think of any other solution. Therefore, they continue their moves. But can one person rectify what has been ruined over a long period of time?

Despite Murphy's experience, friendships, and his way of holding discussions, he comes to the region to follow up a U.S. move entitled: More humiliation for our Arab nation. This degrading move is embodied in the following:

1. The impossible conditions of the planes deal with Kuwait. Whoever followed the U.S. discussion and conditions to sell Kuwait a number of fighter planes knows how degrading and impossible these conditions are, despite the fact Kuwait's economic relations with the West are almost historic. Imagine, the United States wants a pledge from Kuwait not to use these planes against the Zionist entity before it actually starts discussing the deal. Imagine also, all the weapons used by the Zionist enemy are given by the United States, yet it knows these weapons are used to attack our Palestinian Arab people and against the whole Arab nation.

2. The degrading siege imposed on Qatar, because the United States saw in one of the military parades in Qatar a number of Stinger missiles which Qatar had bought on the black market. The United States is continuing its clamor over this issue and is threatening an economic and military siege on Qatar and its people unless this small state returns the six missiles to the United States, which are all it has.

The United States practices international humiliation against our small countries, despite the fact the resources of these countries are stolen by the United States on the black market which is fully patronized by it. Murphy's efforts, experience, and shrewdness are to no avail when it comes to these international humiliations practiced by the United States against our Arab people.

It is a lifetime of U.S. bias to the enemy of our Arab nation; a lifetime of providing all means of survival and support to the Zionist entity; a lifetime of taking the opportunity to hit at our Palestinian cause, from 1948 to 1967, to 1973, to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon under the patronage of the infamous Philip Habib, to the agreement which led to the exit of the Palestinian resistance from Lebanon, to providing all tools to help the Zionist enemy quell the uprising, starting with gas, to suffocating gases, to aborting gases, to vehicles that throw stones, and to U.S. political moves which try to contain the uprising and thwart it politically. After all this, Murphy wants to rectify with his efforts what has been destroyed through a lifetime of U.S. relations with our Arab nation.

The answer to this question is a practical answer from our Palestinian Arab people: First, no to Murphy meeting anyone in Palestine. Second, no to Murphy meeting any Palestinian outside Palestine which is what President Mubarak is preparing for and we condemn all these preparations.

These noes, which our people have announced and will be practicing, are a humble reply to Murphy's tour. The real answer, however, lies in the continuation of the uprising without any heed to the overt and covert U.S. conspiracies.

PLO Radio Commentary Views Murphy Visit

JN0808134288 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1657 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Political commentary: "Richard Murphy and the Harvest of the Difficult Facts"]

[Text] Brothers, sons of our great Palestinian people, sons of our glorious Arab nation: U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy has started his Mideast tour in which he will visit a number of Arab capitals in

addition to Tel Aviv. This new tour by the U.S. assistant secretary of state takes place again under the roof of the known U.S. noes: No to the PLO, no to the independent Palestinian state, and no to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

This new U.S. tour takes place after some of those allied with the United States against the Palestinian people, their glorious revolution, and their blessed uprising were assigned new roles. In some cases, these roles reached the stage of direct conspiracy, such as the massacres in Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps by the Syrian regime and the continuation of the policies of deportation, home demolition, and direct shooting at Palestinians by the Zionist enemy, in addition to indirect roles played by some others.

Perhaps the purpose of Richard Murphy's tour is to evaluate the results, see the size of the harvest, and draw the new roles of conspiracy for the others. On the other hand, however, Richard Murphy comes to a region lit by huge changes, a region which is witnessing a stage of Arab rise represented by Iraq's victory and stopping the Iraq-Iran war. This Arab rise is also represented through the mythical steadfastness of the Palestinian people's uprising which is entering its 9th month now, spreading over our whole Palestinian land, rooted in the ranks of every individual of our Palestinian people, and creating interaction on both the Arab and international le.els.

This confirms the PLO is the leader of the uprising and the Palestinian people's struggle, the strongest pivot, the equation, and the key to either calmness or explosion in this sensitive region of the world. Continuing to ignore this fact will result in more pain and at the same time in further retardation of the U.S. stand.

The reality which Richard Murphy will find out, as did George Shultz before him, is that the PLO is the first and foremost moving factor inside our occupied land and the prime mover of events for the Palestinian people, who are embodying this great presence in the region. The Zionist axioms based on continued occupation, expansionism, and overleaping of the fact that the Palestinian people exist, we say have dropped and collapsed totally.

Even the most extreme and arrogant Zionist cannot ignore this fact anymore and shut his ears to its echoing sound. The uprising has brought about changes, interactions, and discoveries which cannot be ignored by anyone, not even by the United States of America itself.

What is beyond all this is that all parties know the uprising will continue and those wagering on its end will be struck by its strength, intensification, growth of its stages, and rooting within the Palestinian land, nay, the Arab land. If the Americans have not yet seen the solid facts or reacted to them, these facts will continue to become enflamed through the persevering Palestinian struggle until victory.

South Asian Regional Affairs

SAARC Considers Membership for Afghanistan

BK0708115688 Hong Kong AFP in English 1054 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Kathmandu, Aug 7 (AFP)—A meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Programming Committee began here on Sunday, official sources said.

The Programming Committee was to discuss technical issues relating to SAARC activities in the region in order to make recommendations to the SAARC Standing Committee, an SAARC spokesman said.

The other SAARC countries are Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

The spokesman said the issue of whether Afghanistan should be admitted to the SAARC would be decided at an SAARC Council of Ministers meeting to be held here Thursday and Friday [11-12 August].

"The question of Afghan admission into the SAARC will be finally decided by the council meeting," he said, adding: "It would be premature to say anything at this stage about Afghanistan's admission."

The Soviet-backed Afghan Government has asked to join the SAARC. Its request is supported by India but opposed by Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan.

The spokesman said an SAARC convention on suppression of terrorism was ready for implementation as it had been ratified by India, the last of the member countries to sign on.

SAARC foreign ministers, who are to meet Tuesday and Wednesday, are to discuss implementation of the anti-terrorism convention which is to come up for final approval at a summit to be held in Colombo later this year, the spokesman said.

Algeria

Foreign Ministry Welcomes Gulf Cease-Fire

LD0908104388 Algiers APS in English 1005 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Algeria, 9/8/88 (APS)—"Algeria has welcomed with an immense satisfaction the announcement made by the UN secretary general of the acceptance by Iraq and Iran to set up a cease-fire, a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry spokesman Monday underlined.

"Algeria, the spokesman went on warmly congratulates the two brotherly countries for this courageous, clear-sighted and responsible attitude and expresses the hope to see such a step open the way to the resumption of understanding and harmony between Iraq and Iran and bring back the Gulf in its stability and its vocation as a frame of understanding, exchange and cooperation.

"Algeria also strongly congratulates the United Nations secretary general for this happy accomplishment which is first a reward to his patience, his perseverance and his courage and which also proves the capacity of the UN Organization to be an irreplacable place for the promotion of peace and security between nations when it has necessary means to do it and when it is supported by the required good will.

"The distressing and impatient expectation of all those who were concerned by the Iraq-Iran conflict and its developments, witnesses a happy end today. Once peace has been definitely resumed between Iraq and Iran in equity, law and honor, the two countries, which are united by a community of challenges of destiny to be assumed, can but recover their full place in the preservation of and the defence of the essential causes of the Islamic ummah (nation) and which the fratricidal conflict has weakened by diverting precious capacities and means," the statement of the Foreign Ministry spokesman concluded.

Messaadia Receives Sudanese Minister 7 Aug

LD0708193688 Algiers APS in Arabic 1440 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Algiers 7 Aug (APS)—Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, official in charge of the Permanent Secretariate of the Central Committee of the FLN, received this morning at the FLN headquarters Mr Salah 'Abd al-Salam Khalifah, Sudanese minister of cabinet affairs.

The Sudanese envoy handed the official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat a message to President Chadli Bendjedid from Sudanese President al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. The meeting was an opportunity to review internal developments in the Arab and African arenas and current efforts to stabilize the situation and establish neighborliness; to discuss the necessity of being prepared for the requirements and new developments imposed by the international situation; and to discuss cooperation, coordination, and consultation between the two countries.

Chad

Libyans Overfly North, Raid African Camps

AB0808193688 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] The Libyan Air Force last Thursday [4 August] and Friday, at 0830 on both days overflew Ounianga Kebbir in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti region.

Also last Thursday and Friday, the Libyan authorities conducted raids on the African communities living in the country, and notably on the Chadian community. These foreigners were later detained at the (Lonzur) military camp. These detained foreigners revolted and tried to get out of the camp over the weekend. The Libyans opened fire, killing about 20 of them and wounding many. The wounded persons were transferred to hospitals in Tripoli where they are guarded by soldiers.

These raids, which follow several others carried out recently, are aimed at increasing the number of recruits in the Islamic Legion. As for the detained persons who refuse to join the ranks of the Islamic Legion, they are kept as prisoners of war. These are some of the things that indicate Libya is continuing its preparations to attack Chad.

Oumarou Submits List of 300 Detained in Libya

AB0608090488 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Excerpt] OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou left Ndjamena yesterday morning after a meeting with President Hissein Habre. During the audience, the OAU secretary general handed the head of state a list of 300 Chadians detained in Libyan prisons. Mr Oumarou will convey President Habre's observations to the Libyan side.

Shortly before his departure, Ide Oumarou was interviewed by Radio Chad. In the interview he spoke of all the aspects of the Chad-Libya conflict, especially the obstacles in the way of a settlement of the conflict, the violation of the cease-fire by Libya, and the use of Sudanese territory by Tripoli's Islamic Legion. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Leaves for Cameroon Meeting
AB0808200588 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] The (?18th) session of the Chad-Cameroon joint commission will begin in Yaounde tomorrow. Our minister of foreign affairs left Ndjamena last night for the Cameroonian capital at the head of an important delegation which is made up of the director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, [words indistinct]. The session ends on 12 August.

Egypt

Husayn Phones Mubarak To Discuss Developments
NC0508175988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 5 Aug 88

[Text] Amman, 5 Aug (MENA)—King Husayn of Jordan telephoned President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this afternoon. They exchanged views on a number of Arab and international issues and discussed developments in the Arab arena.

Yesterday, King Husayn made telephone calls to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to discuss regional and Arab issues with them.

Mubarak Holds 'Expanded' Meeting With Cabinet
NC0908110688 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held an expanded meeting at the Presidential Palace in Al-Qubbah at noon today.

Attending the meeting were People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub; Consultative Council Speaker Dr 'Ali Lutfi; Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi; Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning; Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and land reclamation; Dr Salah Hamid, governor of the Central Bank; and Eng Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, minister of housing, utilities, and new urban communities.

Also attending the meeting were Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs; Eng Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy; Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif; Minister of Industry Eng Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahab; chemist 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources; Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development; Minister of Interior Zaki Badr; Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade; Minister of Finance Dr Muhammad al-Razzaz; Dr Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation; and Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for Political Affairs and first under secretary in the Foreign Ministry.

Mubarak on Husayn Decision, Gulf War Cease-Fire
NC0908130188 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1150 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—In press statements to reporters following today's expanded meeting, President Husni Mubarak stressed that the PLO must coordinate with Jordan regarding the establishment of peace under all circumstances.

Responding to a question on King Husayn's decision to sever administrative and legal ties with the West Bank, the president said: I believe that King Husayn's decision was made in response to a request by the PLO. Asked if this decision represents a setback for Shultz' peace initiative in the region, President Mubarak said: We cannot judge this issue now.

He added: King Husayn is committed to peace and to the peace process. He has frankly declared this. This decision does not mean that Jordan will abandon the peace efforts. Despite all these decisions King Husayn has frankly declared: We are committed to peace and to participation in the peace process and the liberation of all the lands.

Asked about the required role of the Palestinians following King Husayn's decision, Mubarak said: They are now responsible for their cause and the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians. We tell them: Do your best for your cause.

Asked if Egypt supports the formation of a Palestinian government-in-exile, the president said: We raised this issue before, but the Palestinians did not agree. Now, they say at one time that they will form a government-in-exile and then they say at another time that such a government is useless.

His excellency added: We are waiting to see what they will do. The current conditions require a reassessment. However, we must wait until we meet the Palestinians and know what their position is in order that we may be able to make a full assessment of the situation. We cannot make a full assessment now because of the contradictory statements which are being made.

In reply to a question on whether he expects great hopes from the upcoming tour of the region by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, President Mubarak said: I cannot say anything about it before Murphy arrives in Cairo.

Asked about Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's statements regarding the West Bank, President Mubarak said: These are election-related statements, similar to those being made in the United States. Let us wait and see what they will boil down to in the end.

In response to a question on the announcement of a date for the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran, he said: We support Iraq, particularly since it demanded such a cease-fire and the need for a withdrawal of troops to the internationally recognized borders some time ago. Iraq also declared that it had no ambitions of occupying Iranian territories. I salute President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi people and government on the decision to accept the cease-fire.

He added: I was pleased that President Saddam Husayn showed great flexibility in accepting direct talks following the implementation of the cease-fire. This is a positive thing to do. The president hoped peace will prevail between Iraq and Iran, both Islamic countries, and also in the Gulf and the entire Middle East region.

Mubarak Calls for Direct Iraq-Iran Talks

NC0608151188 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1333 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 6 Aug (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has said that direct talks between Iraq and Iran are the best way to settle all aspects of the conflict between the two countries and to reassure each of the other's goodwill.

President Mubarak expressed his hope that Iran's decision to accept the cease-fire was made in earnest, noting that this decision was preceded by much trickery.

In an interview with Abu Dhabi television, President Mubarak said that Iran's decision to accept UN Security Council Resolution 598 was sudden and that it gave no prior indication of its intention to make such a move. This, he said, stirred Iraq's suspicions as regards Iran's true intentions, for Iraq had long been calling for an end to the war and for the withdrawal of both armies to international borders. Iraq, Mubarak said, has repeatedly said that it does not want to occupy any Iranian territory.

President Mubarak added: It is not in our interest or in the interest of Gulf countries or the region for the war to continue or for a state of no war and no peace to evolve in the Gulf. The president underlined that Iraq has the right to press for direct talks with Iran to overcome its doubts with regard to Iranian intentions and to end the whole conflict.

President Mubarak also praised the supportive stands of UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan toward Egypt. [passage omitted]

Mubarak Receives Iraq's Ramadan, Message

JN0808133088 Baghdad INA in English 1300 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, Aug. 8, INA— Egyptian President Husni Mubarak received a message from President Saddam Husayn dealing with the developing relations between Iraq and Egypt.

The message was conveyed by President Husayn's envoy Mr. Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy premier, during a meeting with President Mubarak in Alexandria today.

Mr. Ramadan also conveyed to President Mubarak greetings of President Husayn and pride of the Iraqi people and leadership over the brotherly relations between Iraq and Egypt and their serious keenness to strengthen and develop them.

The message renewed Iraq's appreciation to Egypt's president, government and people, in support of Iraq's legitimate defence of its national sovereignty and sincere efforts for restoring comprehensive and permanent peace.

Speaking after the meeting, Mr. Ramadan stated that he had briefed President Mubarak on Iraq's peaceful stances and approval of all international resolutions and cooperation with international organizations over the years of war.

On Iraq's last Saturday initiative, Mr. Ramadan stressed that it had come as a confirmation of the party and revolution leadership's seriousness and keenness in restoring comprehensive and permanent peace and testing the good intentions of the Iranian side in its acceptance of the international resolution.

Mr. Ramadan said that President Mubarak expressed Egypt's pride and satisfaction over the developing relations with Iraq which serve as an exemplary level to relations among Arab countries. President Mubarak also renewed the Egyptian leadership's keenness to carry on large-scale cooperation with Iraq for attaining the common national objectives between Iraq and Egypt.

President Mubarak expressed high appreciation of President Saddam Husayn's initiatives and Iraq's acceptance of ceasefire from a position of triumph and capability on condition that Iran officially announces acceptance of direct negotiations.

The Egyptian president described the message as a highly important initiative and a real breakthrough for restoring permanent and integral peace...the initiative also clearly indicates [the] keenness and seriousness of the Iraqi leadership in settling just peace based on firm and clear-cut bases.

The meeting was attended by Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy premier and foreign Minister; Dr. 'Usamah al-Baz, first foreign underscretary and director of President Mubarak's Office for Political Affairs; and Mr. Nuri al-Wayyis, Iraqi foreign undersecretary.

Ramadan Leaves Cairo 9 Aug

NC0908094288 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi first deputy prime minister, left Cairo this morning at the conclusion of a 1-day visit during which he was received by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

'Abd al-Majid Welcomes Cease-Fire Announcement

NC0908113088 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1120 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said today Egypt welcomes the UN secretary general's declaration that a cease-fire between Iraq and Iran will go into effect on 20 August in preparation for holding direct negotiations between the two countries in order to agree on the just bases for ending the Iraq-Iran conflict.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid added that the secretary general's announcement is a good start to stop the bloodshed between the two Muslim countries and a victory for peace.

The foreign minister went on to say that Egypt, which has called right from the start of this war for reaching a peaceful, comprehensive, and just settlement to this fighting between Muslims, hopes that the two countries will achieve peace, which will enable the two peoples to rebuild what has been destroyed by war and achieve stability in the region.

Concluding his statement, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the Iraqi peace initiatives have effectively helped the cause of peace in the Gulf region.

'Abd al-Majid, PLO's Al-Surani Hold Talks

NC0908133788 Cairo MENA in English 1315 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, Aug 9 (MENA)—Egyptian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid today met with Jamal al-Surani, member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The meeting was attended by Zuhdi al-Qidrah, PLO charge d'affaires in Cairo.

Discussion dealt with latest Palestinian, Arab and international developments and developments of the Palestine cause in the light of Jordan's decision to sever administrative and legal ties with the West Bank.

An exchange of views was made on international trends in the present stage and the Palestinian intifada [uprising] in the occupied territories.

Daily Views Implications of Jordanian Decision

NC0608055988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2035 GMT 5 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 5 Aug (MENA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH has commented on Jordan's decision to sever administrative and legal relations with the occupied West Bank. It notes that the Israeli Government has hastened to exploit this decision as much as possible and has reacted with more intransigence and stubbornness, contrary to the wishes of the international community.

In its commentary appearing on Saturday, the paper says that the Israelis have gone as far as demanding that the West Bank be officially annexed to Israel and that Israeli law be applied there, especially in areas where Israeli settlements have grown, particularly since there was a prior resolution passed by the Knesset in this respect.

The paper notes that the Jordanian decision has put the Government of Israel in a very difficult position because sooner or later it will have to deal and negotiate directly with the PLO. Therefore, the paper adds, Israel continues to challenge the international community, as witnessed by the announced deportation of eight Palestinians from their land, an act which Cairo has responded to definitively.

In conclusion, the paper says: As we are confident that the PLO will assume its new responsibilities, we can affirm the Israeli stand is bound to change, especially as signs of stability and peace are appearing over the world's hot spots.

3-Way Talks on Tabah Issue Begin 9 Aug

NC0908103888 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0955 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—The tripartite talks on Tabah being held between Egyptian, U.S., and Israeli delegations opened in the MENA House Hotel at 1130 today. The Egyptian delegation is led by Ambassador Ahmad Mahir, director of the Foreign Ministry's Legal Department; the Israeli delegation by Yosi Ben-Aharon, director of the Israeli Prime Minister's Office; and the U.S. delegation by Abraham Sofaer, legal adviser at the U.S. State Department.

It is known that the talks were suggested by Israel with a view to reaching a settlement for the Tabah issue outside the framework of arbitration.

Earlier in the day, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Counselor Abraham Sofaer. Sofaer said after the meeting that he had held constructive talks with Dr 'Abd al-Majid and

that today's tripartite talks are an attempt to settle the difficult issue of Tabah. He noted that as long as the two parties have the desire there is hope for resolving this issue.

For his part, Dr 'Abd al-Majid stated that his meeting today with Ambassador Abraham Sofaer provided an opportunity to discuss all developments in the Tabah issue. He pointed out that the arbitration process is continuing without any change. He said that Egypt views Tabah as part of Egyptian territory and that Egypt's right to and sovereignty over Tabah are obvious and cannot be violated.

Fugitive From Tura Prison Killed, Another Caught

NC0808205588 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Within the framework of the Interior Ministry's efforts to capture the fugitives who escaped from Tura prison after their third colleague, 'Isam al-Din Muhammad Kamal al-Qamari, was killed in the Al-Sharrabiyah neighborhood on 25 July 1988, information received by the State Security Investigations Department led to the hideout of the second fugitive, convict Muhammad Mahmud Salih, alias Muhammad al-Aswani, and to his capture together with his brother, Tariq Mahmud Salih, alias Tariq al-Aswani.

The latter had participated in preparing and implementing the plan for the convicts' escape from prison. The brothers were captured in the Ghamrah neighborhood in Cairo this evening.

The brothers used a firearm and plastic bombs in an attempt to repulse the security force, but were wounded in the operation. An officer also was hit by a bullet, and is in satisfactory condition.

The information possessed by the State Security Investigations Department also led to the third fugitive convict, Khamis Musallam Qamar, who had hidden out in the Al-Ma'adi gardens. He opened fire at the security force, which returned the fire, killing him. The automatic weapon in his possession was seized. The State Security prosecution has begun an investigation.

The State Security Investigations Department recently succeeded in capturing Khalid Bakhit, a leader in the Jihad Organization, who gave the convicts shelter after they had escaped from prison.

Sawhaj Mosque Explosion Reported 1 Aug

JN0508103688 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 3 Aug 88 p 1, 2

[By Fikriyah Ahmad]

[Text] A bomb whose source is still unidentified exploded in the Al-Shahid Husni al-Badawi mosque in Sawhaj the day before yesterday. The blast broke window panes, inflicted other damage, and seriously injured a worshipper.

The Public Prosecutor's Office and the State Security Intelligence Department were informed and an explosives expert was charged with examining the remains of the blast and taking fingerprints.

The assistant [interior] minister and the Sawhaj police department chief received a report from Muhammad al-Sayyid Hammudah, the guard of the health unit in the Salmun [name as published] village about an explosion following the departure of the worshippers from Al-Shahid Husni al-Badawi Mosque after the evening prayers.

The above officials went to investigate the incident and saw the explosion and the subsequent fire in the mosque. They also found Tal'at Ahmad Mahmud, a law student and member of an Islamic group, bleeding on the mosque's floor, with his left hand severed from the wrist.

Brigadier Husni al-Sharif, director of the criminal supervision department; Colonel Muhsun Majdi, the intelligence chief; and a team of state intelligence officers, arrived at the scene and found the remains of the bomb. The injured student was taken to hospital for treatment and interrogation.

Briefs

Ambassador to Guinea-Bissau

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry has received the approval of the State of Guinea-Bissau concerning the appointment of Abu al-Qasim al-Qadi as Egypt's ambassador to Guinea-Bissau. Al-Qadi will assume his ambassadorial duties in the second half of August. [Excerpt] [*JN0408165488 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 3 Aug 88 p 1*]

Libya

More on Visit by Tunisian President Ben Ali

Leaders Address Banquet

LD0708135788 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Yesterday evening Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi held a dinner banquet at Bab al-'Aziziyyah in honor of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and his accompanying delegation. During the banquet, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi delivered a speech at the begining of which he welcomed President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and his accompanying delegation, pointing out the warmth of the welcome accorded President Ben Ali since his arrival in his homeland to be among his people, the welcome accorded him by his brothers in Libya.

He added the Libyan people have not welcomed a traditional president, but one of the heroes of the Arab nation: The hero of 7 November. He said a new dawn had broken over the Arab Maghreb and the Arab homeland since 7 November. Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

pointed out that the 7 november movement was a corrective movement that restored to Tunisia its role in the Maghreb and Arab arenas. It entrenched its Arab and Islamic identity.

He stressed that the 7 November change contributed to clearing the air among brothers and to giving a new impetus to joint Arab action. It brought about the meeting between the two countries and the two fraternal peoples in Libya and Tunisia. He said that the meetings and contacts between the two leaderships in Tunisia and Libya since 7 November all had constituted practical steps along the road of joint action and have continuously proved the earnestness and the genuine character of the new Tunisian regime.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi touched on the major current Arab issues. In particular, he voiced his support for the decision to implement a cease-fire between Iraq and Iran. He hoped the decision would actually be put into force and the resulting energies combined in confrontation with the Israeli enemy. The leader of the revolution praised the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab areas. He extended a salute of appreciation and admiration for the generation of anger: the stone-throwing children. He called for escalating the resistance in its various forms and for continuing the steadfastness in order to confront Zionism. He also called for regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict as a conflict of existence.

In this connection, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi announced his call for the formation of a Palestinian government and a Palestinian liberation army so that world public opinion may be convinced of the Palestinian reality and the legitimacy of the Palestinian people's struggle.

Concerning the Chad issue, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said that Libya considered it a domestic issue. Libya possessed sufficient courage and credibility to stress its neutral stand toward this problem. In this connection, he said that in light of the talks he held with the head of state yesterday, Libya announced through President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali its readiness to open a people's bureau in Ndjamena and to harbor a Chadian Embassy in Tripoli, without making a solution to the conflict between the two warring sides in this African country a condition for normalizing relations with that country.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi also renewed his support for the issues of liberation in southern Africa and Namibia, pointing out in this connection that he talked with President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali about the question of supporting the Africans and helping them solve their problems.

Then President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali made a speech in which he said:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution; brother secretaries; brothers:

I would like to begin my speech by renewing my overwhelming happiness at visiting my second homeland—beloved Libya—and my meeting with my brothers—a great leadership and a proud people—at the generous invitation of my dear brother, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and in response to a yearning to be with you that has been inside me for a long time. I thank God Almighty for the reasons that facilitated the holding of this meeting and caused it to take place at the level of amity, fraternity, and confidence desired by our two peoples. Brothers, the Tunisians and Libyans in actual fact are one people. Everything links them together and nothing separates them. This is what the 1 September Revolution and the 7 November Movement brought about. In the past, relations between the two countries witnessed some events that disturbed their clarity and hindered cooperation, but they did not harm the heart of the cordiality and the depth of the fraternity. These events have passed, thanks be to God, with the disappearance of their causes.

We take this happy occasion to affirm to you our firm resolve to bypass all traces of the negative aspects of the past and to adhere to what keeps us in touch with one another in the way of close ties, the roots of which go back to our ancient past. Are we not among the closest—among kith and kin—to one another, both in kinship and pure origin? Have we not participated together in enriching successive Mediterranean civilizations, particularly the Arab/Islamic civilization to which we proudly belong?

Have we not both resisted foreign colonialism in our countries? Have we not found in you—when times were hard and supporters rare—a warm refuge, a supporting arm, and a generous sanctuary? Did we not together long to build a strong Arab Maghreb that would make a great contribution to realising the unity of the Arab nation, restoring its respect, and liberating its usurped land?

If we ponder the past, the present, or what we seek in the future, we will find nothing except that which brings us together, unites our hearts, and places on us a great responsibility we must shoulder in the best way possible. In Tunisia we feel that this is not possible without liberating the will of our people, listening to the pulse of their feelings, and making them partners in deciding their destiny and choosing the way they want to live.

Hence, we carried out the change on 7 November and Tunisia returned to its natural place in its Arab and Islamic environment so it can play the role assigned it by carrying out its duty along with its brothers in their various regions, beginning with those closer to it in the Arab Maghreb. This appears to us to be a pressing priority; it calls on us to close ranks and overcome obstacles soberly, firmly, and resolutely.

Sovereignty returned to our people, who are its source. Their will has become free. The restoration of relations with our brothers in the Jamahiriyah was one of the first aspects of that will because our two peoples truly are blood brothers, their interests are integrated, and more than others they suffered from negative aspects of the past. We believe that the 7 November change was not a gain for Tunisia alone, but also—as Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has said—a gain for the two fraternal Libyan and Tunisian peoples. It is also a gain for the entire Arab nation.

For these people who have become free, whose will has been liberated, and who possess their own sovereignty, their potentials are strengthened, their energies are being doubled, and they are becoming strong in building their future. Our two peoples in Tunisia and Libya are the best examples of this.

With the various aspects of the successive movements that have taken place in various areas of our relations, optimistic horizons of cooperation, solidarity, interaction, and integration have begun to appear.

Brother Colonel, it has become certain through our recent meetings that the two leaderships are determined to raise their feelings and intentions to the level of implementation and permanence in order to insure integration and to maintain the link between our two countries and our two fraternal peoples.

We have come to the soil of the Jamahiriyah in order to work together to strengthen this course, which we see as the best way to the desired unity; a unity built with patience and confidence, the foundations of which are strong and the fields of which are wide: a unity stronger than any obstacle and which passes every test; a unity that springs forth from developing the aspects of cooperation and integration between our two people, and a unity that can go forth as a comprehensive basis until it leads to the higher objective we seek, namely, presenting a sound example with the strength of our homelands, the glory of our people, and the dignity of our nation.

Thus, our success along this road is a basic prop for the ranks of the Arab nation, for bringing it together, uniting it, and removing the reasons standing in its way from time to time, here and there, God willing.

We believe that we all have to overcome transient things and place the question of bilateral, regional, and pan-Arab relations within the framework dictated by international conditions and the requirements of our destiny in this age, when small entities have no choice between accepting the protection of the strong or massing up their own forces by organizing cooperation and rationalizing the use of their resources so they can be their own masters, effective in their own sphere, proud, and dignified.

It is a source of optimism for the future of our peoples and our nations that our visit to the Great Jamahiriyah comes at a time when our area is witnessing a blessed movement that continues at all levels. One of its distinguished signs was the convening of the historic meeting, which brought together the leaders of the Arab Maghreb in June on the soil of fraternal Algeria. That meeting was a starting point for defining the ideal framework for the formulas of cooperation and integration between our countries in various fields in an endeavour to lay down a strong basis for building the edifice of an Arab Maghreb without frontiers as a basic step toward comprehensive Arab unity.

What we have accomplished together along this road in the brief period since the Algiers meeting strengthens in our hearts confidence in the progress of our Maghreb entity and gives us an incentive to continue the endeavour to realise this aspiration, which is no longer a slogan we raise haphazardly, but a historical inevitability that is the destiny of us all.

Colonel, brothers, strengthening forms of cooperation and integration at the bilateral, regional, and Arab level tends to bolster the Arab front. It will without fail have the greatest effect on the struggle of our Palestinian people and will give them strength to resist Zionist aggression, enhance their blessed revolution raging in the occupied Arab areas, strengthen the hand of the PLO—its legitimate and sole leadership—and hasten the triumph of Arab right over Israeli aggression. In the same degree to which we believe in the sanctity of the Palestinian cause and the imperative nature of liberating Palestine, we are not complacent about supporting the issues of justice and liberation, particularly in South Africa and Namibia, the peoples of which are suffering oppression, injustice, and detestable racial discrimination.

Brothers, I would like to praise with pride the achievements of the Al-Fatih of September and the leading gains that have been realised, gains we do not regard simply as Libyan, but as embracing all the masses in Tunisia and the Jamahiriyah, as well as all the other Arab regions.

Also, I would lke to renew my thanks and gratitude to the dear brother, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and the rest of the brothers in the Jamahiriyah for their great hospitality and welcome. May God lead us to doing what is beneficial to our nation and let us be of those who listen to and obey his words: And hold fast, all together, by the rope of God and be not divided among yourselves. These are the true words of God. The peace and blessing of God's mercy be upon you.

Visit Benghazi 7 Aug

LD0808195088 Tripoli JANA in English 1633 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 8, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—President Ben Ali and [the] leader of the revolution arrived in Al-Bayan al-Awal [name as received] (Benghazi) yesterday afternoon.

They were warmly welcomed and were received by the secretary of the People's Congress of Benghazi municipality, the secretary of the People's Committee there, a number of the secretaries of the people's congresses and the people's committees there, apart from large numbers of the masses of the basic people's congresses.

On leaving the aeroplane, they were given wreaths of flowers on behalf of the above masses in Benghazi. The national anthems of the two countries were sung. Then, President Ben Ali inspected the guards of honour that stood there to salute him. 21 artillery shots were fired saluting President Ben Ali.

President Ben Ali shook hand with those receiving him from among the secretaries of the people's congresses and committees and a number of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces officers.

Meanwhile, the masses chanted for the strong and brotherly cohesion between the one Arab people in great al-Jamahiriyah and Tunisia stressing the importance of achieving the unionist aspirations of the one Arab people in the two countries on the road of building Arab Maghreb without borders as a step towards achieving the overall Arab unity.

All the masses in Benghazi took to the streets to give their warm welcome to President Ben Ali raising his portraits and those of the leader of the revolution stressing the common destiny of the one Arab people in both countries and expressing its pride in having him in the land of Great al-Jamahiriyah.

The masses slaughtered some sheep expressing their happiness on this visit paid by President Ben Ali to Great Al-Jamahiriyah.

Joint Communique

LD0808213588 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1820 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Banghazi, 8 Aug, JANA—A press communique was issued this evening in the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the fraternal Tunisian Republic following President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's visit to the Great Jamahiriyah. Here follows the text:

At the invitation of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the great Al-Fatih revolution, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, the president of the Tunisian Republic, paid a visit to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah during the period 6-8 August 1988. The great guest and his accompanying delegation were me with a warm official and popular reception representing the depth of the brotherly ties linking the two fraternal peoples in the two countries.

During his stay in the Jamahiriyah, His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali visited a number of great industrial, chemical, oil, and infrastructural projects, in particular the great man-made river. On this occasion, he expressed his appreciation and admiration for the efforts undertaken by the leadership of 1 September within the framework of modern advancement and toward the achievement of the impregnability of the fraternal Libyan people, as an embodiment of joint Arab aspirations.

Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and his brother President El Abidine Ben Ali had private comprehensive talks and talks involving the two delegations. The latter talks addressed the relations of brotherhood and friendship between the two countries and ways of consolidating and developing them to the benefit of the two brotherly people in particular and the Arab motherland in general.

In context, the two sides expressed contentment with relations between the two countries since the change of 7 November in Tunisia in terms of (?purity) and development and with what has been achieved in the sphere of bilateral cooperation since the visit of brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great Al-Fatih revolution, to Tunisia during February and the meeting of the two leaders in Djerba May 1988, (?where) the two leaders emphasized their determination to continue the development of relations [words indistinct] their two countries in all spheres.

This will be an accomplishment of integration, as a first step toward the attainment of unity and as a contribution toward the building of a great Arab Maghreb. This, in turn, will pave the way for the achievement of total Arab unity. In this context, the two leaders agreed to give impetus to the march of cooperation, integration, and coordination between the official and popular bodies of the two countries.

In this regard, they emphasized their determination to clear relations of all the negative effects of the past and to open new prospects consistent with the climate between the two countries. They also issued instructions for the taking of effective practical steps to accomplish what the two people aspire toward in terms of interaction and integration and to the safeguard their interests in the two countries. Agreement was reached on the following:

1. Speeding up the implementation of all the measures agreed on by the two sides during the visit of His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and during the third session of the joint higher commission concerning the securing of the circumstances and conditions of the movement, residence, and work of the citizens and the issuing of instructions relating to that to the relevant bodies in the two countries;

2. Agreements were signed concerning the settlement of the issue of the continental shelf. These stipulate that the implementation of the judgment of the International Court of Justice and joint exploitation;

3. Permission for a study on a project to supply water from the great man-made river to Tunisia, and to provide southern Tunisia with all its requirements of water;

4. Signing of a number of agreements for cooperation in the fields of transport, information, agriculture, and fisheries.

Upon reviewing the situation in the Arab region, the two sides stressed:

1. Their support and backing for the steps adopted in the framework of relations among the Arab Maghreb countries. They welcomed the results reached by the Maghreb commission which convened in Algiers 13-14 July 1988 and expressed their hope that the mixed committees that were set up would hurry to implement the tasks delegated to them in order to realize the greater Arab Maghreb as a step toward comprehensive Arab unity;

2. Continuation of backing and support for the Palestinian Arab people, led by the PLO, in their struggle against the Zionist enemy. They are addressing a greeting of deference and pride to the valiant and overwhelming uprising in the occupied land which is the most powerful expression of this struggling people's rejection of occupation. They urge the world public opinion to stand by righteousness and justice and stress that the solidarity and unity of ranks of the Arab nation are an effective guarantee of support for the Palestinian people's struggle and willingness to confront the Zionist entity's agression and repeated threats to the Arab nation in its various countries;

3. Their welcome of the peace initiatives that have begun to emerge toward ending the war between Iraq and Iran. They expressed their satisfaction with the resolutions adopted at the international level to achieve this and to protect the two countries' capabilities and safeguard security and peace in the Arab Gulf region;

4. Their call for the Mediterranean to be declared a zone free of foreign weapons and fleets;

5. Their strong stand against the practice and attempts represented in the dumping of industrial wastes in the Mediterranean, and their support for all efforts to ward off the dangers of pollution of the sea.

Regarding the African Continent, the Tunisian side expressed its welcome for the declaration made by Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdahfi, leader of the great Al-Fatih revolution on the occasion of Africa day concerning the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's readiness to resolve all problems with the Republic of Chad in peaceful ways.

The two sides also expressed again their firm support for the struggle of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa against blind and odious colonialism.

At the end of his visit, President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali expressed his thanks and appreciation to his brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi for the profound fraternal welcome and the generous hospitality he and his accompanying delegation were accorded, reflecting the sentiments of fraternity and amity and the strength of the ties between the two fraternal peoples.

Statements Made

LD0808224588 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1944 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution and President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali attended in the city of (Al-Bayan al-Awwal), Benghazi, the ceremony of signing the minutes of a bilateral cooperation agreement between the Great Jamahiriyah and sisterly Tunisia that covers various spheres. The minutes were signed by a number of brother secretaries of the General People's Committee and the ministers accompanying President Ben Ali. The signing ceremony was also attended by Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, a brother secretary of the General People's Congress, a brother secretary of the General People's Committee, and members of the delegation accompanying President Ben Ali.

President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali made a statement as follows:

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great September Revolution, and honorable brothers, I have the pleasure at this splendid ceremony which marks the culmination of our talks of expressing my deep satisfaction at the refreshing fraternal atmosphere that prevailed at all our meetings. It reaffirmed the joint desire to implement the plans and projects we have drawn up to contribute to rapproachment between the two peoples who are linked by ties of closeness and unity of destiny and to help to lay the foundation of the desired integration on firm and strong bases.

I believe that the practical decisions recorded in the minutes of the meetings and agreements represent an important step toward the realization of the political will which the two leaderships pursue to take Tunisian-Libyan cooperation to the stage of implementation and achievement.

The results we have achieved at our meetings this time in the land of sisterly Arab jamahiriyah are seen as an extension and culmination of the joint objectives we defined at the Djerba meeting. Thus today we add another brick to Maghreb and Arab unity. On this occasion I would like to express again my profound thanks to my brother, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and the brothers in the Jamahiriyah for the extraordinary care and generous hospitality that are an innate quality

of the brotherly Libyan Arab people. May God help us achieve that which will benefit our two peoples and the Arab nation as a whole. May God's peace and mercy be upon you. [end recording]

The brother leader of the revolution also made a statement at the signing ceremony as follows:

[Begin Al-Qadhdhafi recording] Brother President and brothers, at the end of this fraternal and practical meeting we would like to express satisfaction at the positive results reached during this meeting and the intensive talks since your arrival, Brother President, in your land and your family until now.

Despite the simplicity of the surroundings and the atmosphere in which these talks have been held and work has been accomplished, the results are a very important step toward Arab unity. If Arab unity starts between two countries like Tunisia and Libya, it will contribute to the unity of the Arab Maghreb and then the unity of the Arab nation.

This meeting between us is no ordinary one. It is in fact a meeting between revolutionaries and vanguards of popular forces aspiring to unity, liberation, constructive progress, and safeguarding honor. I stress that this meeting is different from traditional meetings between conventional leaders, the results of whose work would be ordinary, traditional and ceremonial. However, this meeting is serious and deep, and the work accomplished confirms this. It is not a meeting between the impoverished and the rich as some have commented, nor is it between the haves and have-nots. It is a meeting of integration and a meeting between the capabilities of two Arab countries which have not been employed judiciously in the past to the benefit of the two peoples.

We have seriously worked through all the previous meetings and are (?inspired by) the recent meeting at Djerba. This meeting and future meetings are to combine the capabilities of the two countries, which cannot be underestimated. We have to benefit from Tunisia's human and material resources and also from Libya's resources. We lacked in the past the intrepid will to trample on the artificial borders and utilize these resources to the benefit of the sons of this nation. This will has now been in evidence since 1 September [Libyan revolution] and 7 November [Ben Ali's assumption of power].

We know that this achievement and trend will face conspiracies by envious and odious forces that have decided in advance to exercise the right of veto on the future of the Arabs. Leading the hostile, odious and evil forces is the United States, which will not hesitate to veto impudently and brazenly the future of Arab unity. It has previously protested against the unity steps announced between Libya and Algeria.

This is blatant interference in the internal affairs of others, and domination and arrogance which we categorically reject. I do not want to conceal the attitudes adopted by others. I do not want to minimize the objective. I want to say that henceforth the United States will make every effort to deprive Tunisia and Libya of the benefits of this action. It will conspire with the help of its lackeys and tools in West Europe, the Arab Maghreb, and the Arab region to make us doubt our own capabilities and our own will and to belittle our own actions.

Thus it should henceforth be clear to the Tunisian and Libyan media, people, Foreign Ministries, and leaderships that the lines of battle should be drawn and the method used by the enemy should be known; the identity of the enemy and its position should be known; and the aim which the enemy has in mind against us should be known. This is because they are in actual fact blatantly challenging us. We should speak openly about this enemy and its intentions because the battle is raging between us.

We are Arabs and have capabilities such as those which the United States, the USSR, and West Europe have. By our own free will we decide to combine such capabilities and overcome backwardness and achieve progress. We want peace and cooperation with the United States, Europe, the Soviet Union, Asia, and Africa—these are our policies. But they will interfere in our internal affairs because they want to be the only strong people on this globe. They want to blackmail us, drain our wealth, and hinder our effectiveness so that we remain weak while they remain strong. We categorically reject these policies which we deem unjust and hostile and which very much obstruct international cooperation.

We thus warn them against obstructing our path. Our intentions are good. We want to build ourselves and want to unite our nation beginning with the unity of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and the unity of the Arab Maghreb, and then the unity of the Arab nation. We want this nation to contribute to the progress of mankind, in making peace, and in realizing a just international equilibrium. We will resist any interference by the forces which are hostile to Arab unity. We will resist them with all the capabilities at our disposal because our cause is just and because we are confronting an enemy that wants to interfere in our internal affairs and decide our own future.

We Arabs in Tunisia and Libya today declare that we have decided to march along the road of unity, integration and the amalgamation of our capabilities and to use and invest our capabilities in the interest of the sons of the two countries as well as the sons of this nation. [applause] This is a noble aim and sound policies. He who is hostile to these aims and policies is deemed evil and unjust. We will resist him. The coming days will prove the soundness of such predictions.

But we want to tell them that they are facing a firm and strong will in Tunisia and Libya after 7 November. They have to understand that Tunisia after 7 November is no longer a toy, a puppet, or a lackey, as was the case prior to 7 November. Libya does not need definition in this respect. They clashed with Libya and clashed with a formidable adversary over Libyan territory.

We brothers are cutting our path with confidence in ourselves, our capabilities, and our will, and with a resolve to resist whoever wants to obstruct from without and within this unity-seeking, progressive, integration-seeking march which creates integration and amalgamation of the capabilities of the two countries. We brothers in Tunisia and Libya should forever cast aside regional considerations and should belittle isolationism. We should reject this phase which we lived through and experienced with all the bitterness that it entailed because we gained nothing from it except backwardness, disappointment, and remorse.

What benefits did we gain from regionalism? What benefits did we gain from isolationism? What benefits did we gain from the hatred and envy sown between us? What benefits did we gain from the borders created by France and Italy between the two peoples, in fact the one people, in Libya and Tunisia? What is the result of regionalism? What benefits do we gain by staying behind the borders created by colonialism?

What benefits are to be obtained from waging media campaigns and abuse against each other? What benefits do we gain by having links with foreign forces? We gain nothing from all this. We are in a state of backwardness while the enemy is progressing at our expense and disregards us. We have lost our dignity and our capabilities. We did not exploit our capabilities.

So, brothers in Tunisia and in Libya, we have to cast aside for good this phase and its negativeness and we should resolutely trample upon it. The Libyan and Tunisian citizens should get rid of all aspects of regionalism. If a Libyan sees a Tunisian brother in need of help, he should extend a helping hand to him. He should consider this Tunisian brother before he considers himself. If a Tunisian brother sees that there is benefit to be gained for his Libyan brother, he should not hesitate in making available such a benefit.

By this I mean our slogan as revolutionaries or as unionists. We say that Arab oil is for the Arabs; one Arab people and one Arab homeland. We consider differentiation between the sons of the one Arab people and the one Arab homeland as blasphemy. We say that all the capabilities of the Arab homeland belong to the Arab people. After 7 November we consider brother Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and his free comrades among the leaderships of the free unionists.

Consequently, we are going along with the convoy of unity and we have no other convoy but that of unity. History has confirmed to us that this is the correct path, the path of unity. It has also confirmed to us that localism, division, and fragmentation will not benefit us. This has been confirmed throughout this period during which we have lived behind these artificial borders.

Finally, I should like to express my happiness that what I have said is sincerely shared by my brother, Zine El Abidine. He also feels that his fraternal colleagues in Tunisia share the same feeling with him. I feel that in Tunisia there is a new unionist thinking, a new generation, and a new understanding. Frankly, it is difficult for me during all the meetings to differentiate between the Libyan and Tunisian in their approach to issues of importance to the two countries.

Allow me to say—I hope it will not be considered interference in internal affairs, for we do not consider ourselves to be foreigners to each others—in Tunisia today there is a minister who is unlike the one I used to know; a prime minister different from the one we used to know; civil servants different from the ones we used to know; a broadcasting service different from the one we used to hear—everything in Tunisia is new since 7 November. [applause] Everything is new in a healthy direction, a correct direction.

Dear brother President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, I should like to express to you my happiness for your acceptance of my invitation to you and your visit to your family and country. I will have to fulfill the obligation of an official visit to you in the near future in response to your invitation. After that, there should be no formalities, official visits, or invitations. We should be able to meet, even several times a day, as if we were in one country.

Forward! Our struggle is joint... [Al-Qadhdhafi's voice fades into applause and chanting] [end recording]

Ben Ali Departure Statement

LD0808214088 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1955 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Benghazi, 8 Aug (JANA)—President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali of the fraternal Republic of Tunisia left Al-Bayan al-Awal, Benghazi, following a 3-day visit to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah at the invitation of his brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. President Ben Ali was accorded an official farewell ceremony, and the brother leader of the revolution was in the forefront of those who saw him off. [passage omitted]

President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali made a statement to the press prior to his departure as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. On the occasion of this visit to the fraternal Arab Jamahiriyah I should like to convey my heartfelt thanks and

appreciation once again to my dear brother, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September revolution, and to the fraternal Libyan Arab people for the warm welcome and hospitality which I received everywere. This reflects the depth of the firm fraternal ties between the two fraternal Arab peoples.

We praise the colossal achievements made by the great revolution owing to the wise revolutionary leadership. I can only praise the prevailing spirit of sincerity and frankness in our discussions. This will inevitably result in the building of a shared future and in the attainment of joint objectives.

Further Details on Agreements With Tunisia

LD0908004088 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Excerpt] The president of the Republic's visit to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah was crowned yesterday evening with the signing in the city of Benghazi of several cooperation agreements and minutes of sessions. The documents were signed in the presence of President Ben Ali and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

In particular these agreements concern integration in the field of information and the establishment of a joint company for radio and television production. They also concern cooperation in the field of fisheries and maritime equipment as well as the exchange of international express mail and the combatting of agricultural diseases.

Concerning the minutes of the social committees, agreement was reached over the settlement of the rights of workers and citizens in the two countries, the legal status of Tunisian workers in the Jamahiriyah and the status of properties in the two countries. Agreement was also reached on establishing large development projects of mutual benefit, such as linking the electrical grids of the two countries, linking the telephone networks, and constructing a highway between (Ra's Judayr) and Safaqis.

On the Tunisian side these agreements were signed by the ministers of information, social affairs, agriculture, and foreign affairs. On the Libyan side they were signed by the secretaries of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture and for Public Service, as well as the secretaries of marine wealth and foreign liaison. The ceremony was attended by a number of senior officials in the Libyan Jamahiriyah and by members of the Tunisian and Libyan delegations. [passage omitted]

Joint Technical Committee Meets in Tripoli

LD0708141488 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] The technical Arab Libyan-Tunisian committee met in Tripoli this morning involving brother secretaries of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaision; Abdelhamid Cheikh, Tunisian minister of foreign affairs; the secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Service; Taoufik Cheikhrouhou, Tunisian minister of social affairs; in addition to some technical experts and specialists from both sides.

During this meeting, they reviewed and discussed all fields of mutual cooperation between the two fraternal countries and the necessary means to push it forward toward establishing unity and constructing an Arab Maghreb without separate borders.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Local Officials

LD0508230088 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 5 Aug 88

[Text] This morning the brother leader of the revolution met with the General People's Committee and secretaries of the popular committees of municipalities.

The meeting was attended by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud; Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces; Colonel Mustafa al-Kharrubi, the inspector general of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces; and Major al-Khuwaldi al-Humaydi.

The brother secretary and members of the General People's Congress, the secretary of the People's Followup Bureau; the governors of the Libyan Central Bank; and directors of the banks in the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the oil organization and its subsidiaries also attended.

During the meeting, the brother leader affirmed the need to implement the resolutions of the popular congresses and the need to continuously followup the implementation of laws due to the importance of this in Jamahiri society and the role of the popular committee in exercising its executive duties in a sound way.

In the framework of his inspirational and guiding role in affirming and enhancing the people's authority, the leader affirmed the need to prepare a project to be presented to the basic popular congresses in the great Jamahiriyah which will debate it and approve it. This concerns making the secretaries of the popular committees an administrative authority over the popular committees and making the general popular committee an administrative authority over the popular committees throughout the Great Jamahiriyah.

The brother leader affirmed the imperativeness of effective revolutionary effort for the purpose of establishing national companies to implement the transformation plan, but these must rely on the activities of the national element. Touching on the importance of productive work in Jamahiri society, the leader concentrated on the

need to organize productive work and provide fair job opportunities in a way that respects the individual as a human being and inspires him to be more productive and creative.

The brother leader of the revolution called for the implementation of revolutionary laws in the fields of agriculture and industry in an effective and revolutionary manner. He discussed the question of borrowing and the way to benefit from it. He explained that lending money should be aimed at the people who need to borrow in order to raise their living standard. In this connection, he said: Our policy and our role lie in helping those who really need help in order to raise their living standards from now on.

Iraqi Acceptance of Cease-Fire Welcomed

LD0808155088 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1540 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Tripoli 8 Aug (JANA)—Answering a question by JANA on Iraq's acceptance of a cease-fire, a responsible source at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison said the following:

The fraternal Republic of Iraq announced on 6 August 1988 its acceptance of a cease-fire, and readiness to bring about a lasting and comprehensive peace with the Islamic Republic of Iran. The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison expresses its welcome for this step, which is likely to put an end to the futile war Libya has so often denounced. Libya has also tried to stop it in order to put an end to fratricidal bloodshed and to preserve the potentials of the Arab and Islamic nation, so as to use them in combatting imperialism and racist Zionism, the common enemy of Arabs and Muslims.

We affirm our blessing for the determination of the two fraternal countries to put an end to this war, and to cease fire as soon as possible.

Palestinian Official Arrives for Visit

LD0608190388 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1815 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Aug, (JANA)—Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Tripoli this evening.

Dr Samir Ghawshah made a statement to a JANA correspondent upon his arrival in which he emphasized the supporting and leading role of the brother leader of the revolution toward the cause of the Palestinian Arab people, and his backing for the mass uprising against the Zionists which is being led by the generation of wrath through its people's committees in Palestine.

U.S. Exercises To Protect Cairo Embassy Noted

NC0708182388 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] American soldiers stationed in the Egyptian capital have turned the U.S. Embassy building and the area around it into a military training field in order to test the new building's capability to withstand any attack.

The Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' has reported that American soldiers equipped with antinuclear gear have carried out exercises to repulse an attack using small nuclear bombs against the Embassy building and to launch a counteroffensive.

The American soldiers also tested a new gas that would paralyze any person attacking the embassy.

It is worth noting that the U.S. Embassy in the Egyptian capital and the U.S. diplomats stationed there have been the target of armed attacks, which expressed the Egyptian popular rejection of the U.S. presence on the Egyptian Arab soil. A high-ranking CIA official occupying the post of regional director of the terrorist CIA in the Egyptian capital (?has been a target of such an attack).

U.S. 'Interference' in Lebanese Election Alleged

LD0608124388 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Aug, JANA—The JANA Arab affairs editor has commented on the confirmed reports about the U.S. Administration's interference in the Lebanese presidential elections.

The editor says that the U.S. officials deal with this matter as though it was a U.S. presidential issue, which the envoy of the U.S. Administration had placed among the priorities of his current tour of the Arab region.

The editor asks: Why do the Americans interfere in the Lebanese presidential elections, a matter which concerns only the Lebanese? And how can the U.S. policy of sticking its nose in the affairs of others be allowed in relation to the election of the president of an Arab country?

The editor explains that if we allow this principle, it would be logical for us to accept U.S. interference in the affairs of other Arab countries, including naturally the direct appointment of their leaders, or to await the U.S. Administration's approval of their election, and it would become natural of course in the future to accept U.S. conditions.

The editor confirms that this is actually what merely dealing with U.S. envoys and officials in relation to the Lebanese presidential elections means.

Citizen Awaiting Deportation From England

LD0608204888 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 2029 GMT 6 Aug 88

[By Julie Stretton, PRESS ASSOCIATION]

[Text] A 44-year-old Libyan was tonight awaiting deportation after Home Secretary Mr Douglas Hurd decided his presence in the United Kingdom was not in the interests of national security.

Mr El Hadi Issa Grada [name as received] who has a British wife and two children, has been given notice that he is to be deported and is currently being held at an undisclosed police station.

A Home Office spokesman said: "Mr Hurd has given his personal direction that Mr Grada should be removed from the United Kingdom on the basis that his presence is not conducive to the public good for reasons of national security."

It is understood that Mr Grada, who lives in Southsea, Hants, has been linked with the Libyan intelligence service.

Granted settlement in Britain in 1975 after he married, Mr Grada divorced in 1980. He then married another British woman in 1981, but returned to Tripoli in 1985. He came back to this country in 1986.

Morocco

Foreign Minister Filali Leaves for Talks in U.S.

LD0608164488 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali left Rabat today for the United States. He will hold talks in the company of Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal with a number of U.S. officials on behalf of the Arab seven-man committee, entrusted with studying the Gulf war, which met recently in Baghdad.

The two ministers are expected to visit Washington and New York to hold talks with U.S. and UN officials within the framework of efforts by the Kingdom of Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and a number of Arab and Islamic countries to bring about a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq and establish peace in the region.

Sudan

Khartoum Flooding Leaves 1 Million Homeless

LD0808103188 Kuwait KUNA in English 0916 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 8 (KUNA)—All schools in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum were ordered closed down indefinitely as of Saturday in the wake of torrential rains that devastated the town over the weekend. Scores of people were killed and thousands others were wounded while about one million persons were left homeless. The closure decision was prompted by power cuts which led to scarcity of water and bread in addition to lack of public transportation.

Meanwhile, the Sudanese five-man Supreme Council has declared Khartoum, the Eastern Region's capital of Kassala and Ad-Damir in the Northern Region as areas of disasters due to the floods which claimed the lives of yet unspecified numbers. The Supreme Council appealed to the international community to stretch a helping hand to the flood victims.

Shanty towns in the outskirts of Khartoum were completely wiped out by the floods and over 20,000 houses were destroyed. Thousands of families had deserted their mud houses and sought shelter with lucky relatives whose houses were not affected. Thousands of displaced people, who earlier fled their home towns due to drought in western Sudan or civil war in the southern part of the country and settled around Khartoum, are just living under the sky.

The lack of electricity in Khartoum has led to a sharp drop in drinking water supplies including hospitals because water stations failed to pump water.

Defence Minister 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil told reporters that armoured vehicles and tractors would be made available to rescue marooned people. Government officials said pavilions of the Khartoum International Fair and schools would be used for accommodation of the homeless.

The lack of essential services has triggered sporadic demonstrations in different parts of the capital protesting power cuts, water and bread scarcity. Demonstrators blocked roads and burnt tyres, but nobody was injured and no arrests were reported.

11 Dead, 'Dozens' Injured

EA0808112288 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Sudan's Supreme State Council has declared that the capital city, Khartoum, is under a threat of floods and heavy rains. Some 45,000 houses have been destroyed, 11 people killed, and dozens of adults injured in the most serious flood since the past 30 years. The heavy rains started on Friday and lasted for 15 hours, reaching up to 81 mm according to the metereological observation authority.

The Supreme Council also appealed to leaders of friendly countries and international organizations to support Sudan to combat these problems. Sudan's foreign minister, Husayn Abu Salim, held discussions yesterday with all the ambassadors of Sudan on the situation.

Nile at Record Height

EA0808194688 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] A Sudanese Government official said today some 1 million people were left homeless after the heaviest rain this century hit Sudan at the end of last week causing widespread flooding. Foreign Minister Husayn abu Salih, quoted by the Egyptian news agency, said that Khartoum and cities of Kassala and Shuwak and Ad-Damir, chief town of the Northern Region, had been declared disaster areas and he appealed for international aid.

The Sudanese Irrigation Ministry has said that the height of the Nile at Khartoum was already 36 cm greater than the previous record in the catastrophic floods of 1946. The ministry warned that the river could rise higher over the next 3 weeks even if no more rains fell. Telephone communications with Khartoum were still cut today.

Egypt's AL-AHRAM newspaper quoted Sudanese radio [no date given] as reporting that 10,000 homes have been destroyed and weather experts as saying the rainstorms were the worst the country had known this century.

Al-Mahdi Declares Emergency

LD0908124488 Rabat MAP in English 1211 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 9 (MAP)—Sudan Monday decreed a six month state of emergency to face situation following the floods which have [killed] at least one and [left] a half million homeless in the capital Khartoum.

In a T.V. broadcast address, Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi explained that his cabinet needed emergency powers to face this catastrophe.

Khartoum, with a population of five million inhabitants, is declared sinistered [as received] zone, along with three other provincial towns, and has been deprived of electricity for the past five days. Telephone and telegraphic connections remain cut and most quarters lack drinking water.

Hundreds of thousands of people, ruins of their homes floating on the Nile, Monday spent their third consecutive night in the open, with practically no food.

Western Sahara

SDAR Communique on King Hassan Interview

LD0608194888 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] The Saharan Government and the Polisario Front's reaction to King Hassan II's interview with the French paper LE MONDE:

Firstly, the communique [issued by the SDAR Information Ministry] reiterates the SDAR's position that the Western Sahara problem must sooner or later be solved by direct dialogue between the SDAR and the Kingdom of Morocco, the only two protagonists in the conflict. This dialogue must be on the application in full of the joint UN-OAU peace plan on the Western Sahara.

Within this context, the Saharan communique points out that King Hassan II repeated his traditional attitude of intransigence and procrastination on the Western Sahara issue in his LE MONDE interview.

The SDAR communique adds that Hassan II claims that Western Sahara's independence constitutes a dangerous precedent for the stability of the countries of the region. In the Saharan leadership's view, the real destabilizing factor in the region since 1975 has been the military invasion of the Western Sahara and the aggression against the Saharan people.

Similarly, the Saharan communique continues, the king of Morocco says that he agreed to a referendum in 1981. But what he does not say is that ever since he has acted with a view to a rigged referendum, a plebiscite intended to confirm the Moroccan view, the Saharan Information Ministry communique concludes.

Kuwait

Defense Minister Interviewed on Gulf War, Arms

JN0808171488 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 7 Aug 88 pp 1, 22

[Interview with Defense Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad by Muhammad al-Barjis in Kuwait—date not given]

[Text] [Al-Barjis] What do you think of Iran's acceptance of Security Council Resolution No 598?

[Al-Ahmad] I can honestly tell you that a feeling of ease overwhelmed me as I listened to Iran's acceptance of the resolution. This is the same feeling felt by the peoples and leaders of the GCC countries—a feeling that translates into a desire for peace and an end to the bloodshed that has continued between two neighboring Muslim states for 8 years. The war inflicted heavy losses on both countries, costing them hundreds of thousands of victims, apart from the wounded and the disabled. Both countries have suffered for a long time. It is now high time we inhaled the breeze of peace.

[Al-Barjis] Are you optimistic that Resolution No 598 will be fully implemented?

[Al-Ahmad] When the superpowers want it to be implemented, it will be implemented. I never have any doubts about this. In accordance with the changes that are currently taking place in the political map all over the world, I think the superpowers want the resolution to be fully implemented. They have the credibility to implement it.

[Al-Barjis] It is said that the victims of the Iraq-Iran war amounted to more than a million people. What is your comment?

[Al-Ahmad] It is sad and painful that the blood of two neighboring Muslim countries with a common desire—the fight for the liberation of Jerusalem from the filth of Zionism—is shed. What is important now is that sincere peace overwhelm the region after long suffering. When Iraq repeatedly called for peace and for implementation of Resolution No 598, it was calling for the peace desired by the peoples of the region. We are genuinely confident that the region will now move from destruction to reconstruction.

[Al-Barjis] Will a halt to the war affect the economy of the region?

[Al-Ahmad] There is no doubt about this. A booming economy and a constant peace are interdependent. We will not be exaggerating if we say that the sharp economic recession that affected the region over the past years was due to this destructive war. A halt to the war means that the dynamism of economy will return to what is desired. This will benefit the peoples of the entire region, without exception and in all fields.

[Al-Barjis] Minister, what are the latest developments of the arms deal between Kuwait and the United States?

[Al-Ahmad] I think that the U.S. Administration is anxious for the deal to be implemented. This reflects the strong relations of friendship between the two countries.

[Al-Barjis] What will Kuwait do if the deal is divided?

[Al-Ahmad] I refer to what his highness the heir apparent and prime minister said in his meeting with the U.S. press. His highness stressed that Kuwait will reject the deal if it is divided.

[Al-Barjis] What will Kuwait's stand be if the deal is divided?

[Al-Ahmad] Kuwait has the freedom of will and decision. It has the economic power that prevents it from yielding to a single arms source. We buy the arms that suit us from any country, according to our needs and conditions.

[Al-Barjis] Let us return to the U.S. arms deal. Are you optimistic that Congress will approve it?

[Al-Ahmad] Due to the strong friendly relations between Kuwait and the United States, I think I am optimistic.

[Al-Barjis] Mr Defense Minister, Kuwait has recently concluded a deal with Egypt to buy arms. What is the size and quality of this deal?

[Al-Ahmad] Egypt is a brotherly country. We have great bonds of brotherhood and amity. Egypt's stands toward Kuwait were and still are the stands of a nobleman toward his brother. The arms deal we have concluded with Egypt is considered the largest between Egypt and an Arab state.

[Al-Barjis] What is the nature of the arms that Kuwait bought from Egypt?

[Al-Ahmad] The deal focused on "Fahd" armored vehicles and the "Amun" air defense system. These are advanced models of Egyptian arms. We feel proud these arms are manufactured by Arab hands and conceived by Arab minds.

[Al-Barjis] Will the foreign fleets in the Gulf withdraw following the end of the Iraq-Iran war?

[Al-Ahmad] These fleets entered the Gulf because of the developments of the Iraq-Iran war and the fact that the interests of many countries were harmed by the effects of the war. I think it is self-evident that these fleets will leave the Gulf after the war stops and the reason for their presence ends.

[Al-Barjis] How do you view the military cooperation betwween the GCC countries in light of an end to the Iraq-Iran war?

[Al-Ahmad] It is no secret that there are differences in the stands of the GCC countries toward the Iraq-Iran war. However, after Iran's acceptance of an end to the war, we are optimistic that new cooperation between the GCC countries will take place and grow in all fields, including the military field. The GCC countries are called upon to create an integrated military force for themselves. I am fully confident about this, especially since these countries are covered by the umbrella of amity and honest cooperaton on all levels. The leaders of the GCC countries are keen to push forward the movement of the council in the interest of the peoples of the region.

[Al-Barjis] What will the next conference of the GCC defense minister discuss?

[Al-Ahmad] The conference will convene in October. The general framework of the conference is the discussion of the outcome of an end to the Iraq-Iran war and of the military cooperation plan between member states.

Foreign Minister Receives Velayati Message

LD0808134688 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1245 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Kuwait 8 Aug, (KUNA)—Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received a written message here today from Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati. An authorized source at the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry told KUNA that the message concerns Iran's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 598 and Iranian aspirations to establish peace and stability in the region. The message was delivered by Mostafa Haeri-Fumani, the Iranian ambassador to the UAE, when he met Shaykh Sabah.

PLO's 'Arafat Departs After Short Visit

LD0908084288 Kuwait KUNA in English 0808 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 9 (KUNA)—Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasir 'Arafat left here Tuesday following a one-day visit to Kuwait. 'Arafat on Sunday conferred with his highness the amir of Kuwait and his highness the crown prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah. The PLO leader was seen by Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Khalid Ahmad al-Jasir and a number of protocol department officials at the Foreign Ministry.

Paper on Iran's Efforts To 'Maneuver' on 598

JN0208202188 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 1 Aug 88 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "A Mere Truce or a Lasting Peace!?"]

[Text] We used to believe that Iran's acceptance of the UN Security Council resolution would constitute the begining of the end of the war's tribulations. We also used to believe that it would be the beginning of the process of finding just peace in the region. We had never imagined that Iran's acceptance would be restricted to maintaining a cease-fire between the two warring states—a matter considered inadequate by Iraq, as this would provide the Iranians with breathing space to prepare for a long truce. Hence, Iraq is presenting a logical stand when it calls for direct negotiations on a comprehensive and lasting peace and not just a cease-fire or a long truce that might be broken or collapse at any time—and under certain circumstances.

Iraq has the right to maintain care and vigilance while working to implement the UN Security Council resolution as an indivisible whole that should lead to a package peace deal involving the two warring states and the Gulf region. The Iranian side is trying to win the support of the UN Secretary General and have him concentrate on the first three paragraphs of the international resolution, contending that the implementation of only these three paragraphs is the proper prelude or way to implement the next two paragraphs.

If the Iranians were sincere and honest in their unqualified acceptance of Resolution 598 as announced by Velayati and Besharati, they would enter into direct negotiations to identify the bases of implementing the international resolution and reach an agreement to be guaranteed by the United Nations on the issues and reasons which were behind the outbreak of the war and its continuation throughout the past 8 years.

In fact, Iraq seeks to achieve an honorable settlement, while Iran has continued to maneuver and enter into labyrinths to identify the party which initiated the war. Observers believe that this Iranian demand stands in the way of peace and obstructs efforts to end hostilities. Negotiations should not only tackle the issue of POW's. Nay, they are supposed to tackle the termination of hostilities, troop withdrawals, and the issue of reaching an agreement in principle on the ways to end the conflict once and for all and establish lasting peace between the two warring states and in the region.

Cease-fires that involve the deployment of international observers and the signing of temporary treaties on borders and disputed areas often collapse, as they tackle side

issues while failing to tackle the main issues which are the direct causes of hostilities. Also, these temporary treaties depend on the deployment of the blue-bereted troops.

Within this framework falls Iraq's insistence on the need to implement the UN Security Council resolution in accordance with the sequence of its articles and also on the need to see the UN play its effective role in defense of peace. The UN should exert pressure on Iran to make it respond favorably to the international community's desire to end the conflict and establish a durable security and stability in the region.

Briefs

Ambassador to Belgium

The official gazette today notes that Ahmad 'Abd al-Karim al-Shaykh Ibrahim has been appointed Kuwaiti ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Belgium. [Summary] *[LD0808001888 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Aug 88]*

Saudi Arabia

King Chairs Council of Ministers Session

LD0808212988 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1749 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Jeddah 8 Aug (SPA)—The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, chaired the session held by the Council of Ministers this afternoon, Monday 8 August, at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah.

After the session, His Excellency the Minister of Information 'Ali al-Sha'ir explained to SPA that the custodian of the two holy mosques opened the session with a speech which he began by thanking God for the numerous graces bestowed upon this country and its sons. [passage omitted]

The custodian of the two holy mosques further said: I studied all the reports brought to my attention by the ministers concerned with the pilgrimage affairs and the results of this year's plan, and followed closely all the stages which conformed with the general plan. [passage omitted]

Minister al-Sha'ir went on to say that the council then took note of reports on the major events of the hour in the political and security spheres of the Arab region and particularly on the peace initiative announced by His Excellency President Saddam Husayn in his important address on the evening of the day before yesterday. The council noted the sentences and aims of the address which are characterized by logic, rationality and flexibility. The address presented viewpoints aimed at establishing a durable peace on a clear and sound basis to prevent the recurrence of conflicts between Iraq and Iran, and to prevent any military confrontation between them in the long term—so that stability will prevail over all states and peoples of the region and security and prosperity will spread over the region.

The council was appraised, in this respect, of the outcome of the contacts and consultations carried out by the custodian of the two holy mosques with his brother His Excellency President Saddam Husayn to advance a comprehensive just and stable peace.

Concerning Palestinian issues, the custodian of the two holy mosques stressed to the council that the stand of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as is clear and well known, stems from the Kingdom's full support and continuous backing for the Palestinian Liberation Organization—the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It supports what the PLO deems necessary to recover their legitimate rights, establish their independent state on their territories and realize their right to self determination. The Kingdom will continue efforts according to what the PLO approves of and sees as leading toward these objectives.

The minister of information said that the custodian of the two holy mosques then discussed a number of questions relating to local issues including medical services and the capability, expertise, and efficiency of the companies with which the Kingdom deals with. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Meets With Perez de Cuellar

LD0808222788 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2036 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] New York, 8 Aug (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, met tonight with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. His highness conveyed a message from the Arab League seven-member committee for following up developments in the Iran-Iraq war. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal described the meeting as fruitful. He said in a press statement following the meeting that he is optimistic about the efforts of the UN secretary general to end the Iran-Iraq war. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in New York earlier today.

Hails Cease-Fire Agreement

LD0908080388 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0652 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Washington, 9 Aug (SPA)—His Royal Highnesss Sa'ud al-Faysal, the Saudi foreign minister, described his meeting in Washington last night with U.S. Undersecretary of State John Whitehead as good. In a statement to SPA, he indicated that his royal highness came to Washington as part of the Arab League delegation.

He said: "We came to express our hope and desire for the establishment of a lasting peace in the Arab Gulf region—not just an end to hostilities between Iraq and

Iran." He pointed out that the establishment of a genuine and lasting peace in the region is Iraq's real goal. "We are certain of this," he added. His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal indicated that his meeting with U.S. officials fell within the framework of the Arab League delegation's visit.

He expressed the delegation's satisfaction with the announcement by the UN Security Council of the date for a cease-fire between Iraq and Iran. With regard to direct negotiations between Iran and Iraq, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said: "We should congratulate Iraq on this occasion, and we should congratulate Iran's people on this result." His royal highness continued: "This announcement is only the beginning—the first step along the path of peace."

His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, emphasized that the goal of the Arab world in general, and of Iraq and the Gulf states in particular, is the establishment of a lasting peace. The implementation of this peace now lies in the hands of the UN Security Council and the negotiators from the two countries. "They have all our best wishes," he said.

On the other hand, the U.S. undersecretary of state told SPA: "We are pleased about these results for which we all have been working for several months." He added: "This work bore great fruit in the end."

His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's meeting with the U.S. undersecretary of state was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Kingdom's ambassador in Washington; Chedli Klibi, the Arab League secretary general; and Dr Clovis Maqsud, the Arab League's UN delegate.

UAE Minister Gives King Message, Leaves

LD0608151788 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1400 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 6 Jul, SPA—The UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Rashid 'Abdullah 'Ali al-Nu'aymi, left Jeddah this afternoon after a brief visit to Saudi Arabia during which he handed a message to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, from his brother, UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. [passage omitted]

Hizballah Claims Killing of 3 Police Officers

NC0808194488 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] In a statement issued in Beirut today, Hizballah said that armed members of its branch in Saudi Arabia killed three Saudi police officers during a clash in Al-Qatif, western Saudi Arabia, at the beginning of this month. The statement explained that the clash took place when Hizballah elements ambushed a Saudi police patrol on its way to Hizballah headquarters in Al-Qatif. The statement added that the Saudi police arrested three Hizballah elements. Hizballah warned Saudi authorities against harming the three.

Meanwhile, Hizballah held the United States responsible for the assassination of Pakistani Shi'ite leader 'Arif al-Husayni last week.

Source Denies 'Zionist' Airspace Violations

LD0708194288 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1835 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Riyadh, 7 Aug (SPA)—Denying a report published by the Egyptian daily SAWT AL-'ARAB this morning, saying that Zionist warplanes were violating the skies of the Kingdom, a responsible source told SPA today that the published report is a total fabrication and is not true at all. The source added that since this paper does not hesitate to repeatedly harm Egypt and its government, it is not surprising to see its offences spill over to Egypt's fraternal Arab neighbors.

Commentary Views Visit by Richard Murphy

LD0608225188 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Aug 88

["News and Comment" program prepared by Husayn al-'Askari, presented by 'Abdallah al-Shaya']

[Text] Gentlemen: Peace and God's grace and blessings be upon you. U.S. Undersecretary of State Richard Murphy is continuing his tour of some of the region's capitals in order to examine the recent developments in the issue of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The U.S. Undersecretary of State's current tour of some of the region's capitals undoubtedly reflects U.S. interest in recent developments in the search for a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

However, this U.S. interest will remain limited, if not impeded, as long as it remains in the sphere of the U.S. unwillingness to deal with reality. Foremost among these realities is the right of the Palestinian people and their legitimate representative, the PLO, which is concerned with the discussion of this right with any of the sides trying to find a just and durable solution.

In this context, the U.S. Administration's endeavors to find the solution should not be undervalued. However, the seriousness and the desire to take into consideration the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people should not be neglected by those who are dealing with the question of the Arab-Israeli conflict, because the core of this conflict consists of the Palestinian people's rights.

Consequently, the U.S. undersecretary of state's new tour acquires its importance from the U.S. Administration's proximity or distance from these rights. This is especially so as the current U.S. Administration only has 5 months left in its term of office before it is taken

over by a new administration. This really limits the current administration's sphere of activity, since what could not be achieved over the past years will be impossible to realize in a few months.

In spite of that, one should not give up all hope for the U.S. official's current tour. The progress of events and recent developments—foremost among which is Jordan's declaration of severing the legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank—will have an effect on the efforts to find a solution. Considering that Jordan's aim is to let the international community directly face the Palestinian legitimacy, this will necessarily have an effect on the proposed U.S. options, which have so far been dealing with the problem separated from its legitimate claimants and their representative, the PLO.

UN Security Council Announces Direct Talks

JN0808202888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2014 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] New York, 8 Aug (INA)—It was announced at the UN headquarters tonight that the UN Security Council has adopted what the UN secretary general has announced: The cease-fire in the Iraq-Iran war will become effective on Saturday, 20 August and direct talks between the two parties will begin on Thursday, 25 August at the foreign ministers' level under the auspices of the UN secretary general.

This came in a statement the UN Security Council issued at midnight tonight, Baghdad time. The statement welcomes the UN secretary general's statement on the implementation of Resolution 598 passed by the UN Security Council on 20 July 1987.

The statement adds that the UN Security Council reiterates its insistence that UN resolution 598 will be fully implemented.

UN Chief on Agreement

JN0808204688 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2020 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Brother citizens: UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar addressed a letter to Iraq's UN Permanent Representative 'Ismat Kittani today. The letter says:

Following the official contacts I have held with Iraq and Iran, I would like to inform you that the two governments have agreed that direct talks between their foreign ministers will be held under my auspices immediately after the cease-fire comes into effect to attain a common understanding of the other provisions of UN Security Council resolutions and the measures and the dates pertaining to their implementation.

Nation Celebrates Official Cease-Fire Decision

'Communique of All Communiques'

JN0808213488 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2017 GMT 8 Aug 88

["The Communique of All Communiques," issued by the Armed Forces General Command in Baghdad on 8 Aug 1988]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

O great Iraqi people. O sons of our glorious Arab nation. O heroic men in our valiant Armed Forces: Today is your day. Today is the day of all days. At the same time, this is the communique of all communiques.

On this day, the declaration of cease-fire was issued. The official cease-fire was scheduled to begin on 20 Aug 1988. Iran accepted this after 8 years of fighting in which the Iraqi people and their valiant Armed Forces resisted the forces of aggression and tyranny with all their technical capabilities and experience in charlatanism—against a massing of evil and hatred from its deepest hideouts.

The evildoers, and many others, thought that to occupy Iraq—and to proceed from it and the debris of occupation, against the whole of the Arab world—would only be a matter of time, of accepting a certain degree of losses, of gathering the necessary resources, and of forging the necessary alliances.

But God and the brave Iraqis—men and women—supported by the efforts and prayers of all good men, disappointed them. They have reached their present state after a long battle. The battles of Blessed Ramadan, the operations of "Wa Tawakalna 'Ala Allah", and the operations of Muhammad, the messenger of God, have made them—in an officially declared manner—totally hopeless in implementing the slogans of expansion and aggression. Their decision to accept the cease-fire demonstrates this fact.

It is the great victory achieved by Iraq today in the name of all Arabs and in the name of humanity. It is a victory for the present, the past, and the future. For this reason, we ask you to celebrate it as a great victory, regardless of the results of what awaits us in implementing the other clauses of Security Council Resolution 598. The results of these clauses will not be separated from these facts, from our people's ever-increasing awareness, and from the Arabs' support for them in a great brotherly interaction from the ocean to the Gulf.

O glorious Iraqis, celebrate your victory now, celebrate the day of days. Let everyone express his joy and celebrate on his way. O Arabs, celebrate. It is your day, the day of the pure prey, the day of honorable voices, and the day of the white hands that extended brotherly assistance to the heroic and epic struggle. It is the day of every bullet, shell, weapon, and arm that found its way in the battlefield beside Iraq's capabilities and men.

It is the day of all honorable men in the world who love peace, freedom, and who honorably and culturally look ahead. It is the day of every Iranian who rejected the war and discovered after time, that the way to peace, the respect of neighbors, and the will of nations and peoples are the only ways—not the way to defeat, destruction, and humiliation.

You, men of our Armed Forces, join your people and nation in the celebration on your own and without your eyes losing their alertness to protect your land. Celebrate your official dazzling victory. Celebrate the achievements of your lions, the fruits of your efforts, blood, and

sufferings. Celebrate,O the old and young , men and women, children—the ornament of life—and martyrs—the title, flag, and lords of the victory.

You noble men will definetely celebrate your own way because your righteous souls protected Iraq and prevented the aggressors from setting foot on the Arab land after they set foot on your land and holy places. Your souls are among us. We pledge that we will keep the trust and mantain the promise. God is great, God is great. Thank God for His great victory, and accursed be the lowly.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 August 1988

3-Day Holiday Declared

JN0808211488 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2023 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Statement by the President's Office dated 8 August]

[Text] In celebration of the great victory achieved by the sons of great Iraq through the declaration of the date of the cease-fire—and what this entails in terms of the defeat of the aggression and the aggressors, the repulsion of the schemes of tyranny and evil, the upholding of great Iraq's principles, and the triumph of the will for peace under the leadership of the son of Iraq and its leader, great Saddam Husayn—it has been decided to declare the next 3 days, beginning Tuesday, 9 August 1988, as an official holiday. This is to enable the ever-victorious Iraqis to celebrate this lofty occasion.

We thank God for this victory. Long live Iraq, strong, impregnable, and prosperous under the leadership of its son, knight,and enlightened leader, victor and hero Saddam Husayn.

[Signed] Ahmad Husayn, head of the President's Office on 9 August 1988

Airport Landings Delayed

JN0808214488 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2132 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Aug (INA)—Planes coming to Baghdad were not able to land at the Saddam International Airport due to vollies of bullets fired by the victorious Iraqis following the official announcement of the total victory.

The INA correspondent at the airport said planes were forced to postpone their landing until they were notified of the safety of landing.

Saudi Envoy Delivers Message From King Fahd

JN0408134888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 4 aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Aug (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received Saudi Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir, the personal envoy to his excellency from his brother Saudi Arabia's King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques. The Saudi personal envoy conveyed to the president a verbal message from his brother the custodian of the two holy mosques on fraternal bilateral relations and the current Arab situation.

The meeting was attended by RCC members Taha Yasin Rammadan, first deputy prime minister: and Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, vice president; Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and minister of state for foreign affairs; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, culture and information minister and acting foreign minister; and the president's secretary.

Envoy Departs 4 Aug

JN0408141088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1351 GMT 4 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Aug (INA)—Saudi Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir, personal envoy of Saudi Arabia's King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, left Baghdad today after a brief visit to Iraq. The Saudi envoy was seen off at the airport by Culture and Information Minister Latif Nussayif Jasim. The Saudi envoy met, during the visit, with President Saddam Husayn and conveyed to him a verbal message from his brother King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives, Sees President

JN0608172688 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1608 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Aug (INA)—Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived here this afternoon on a short visit to Iraq. He was received by Latif Nusayyif Jasim, information and culture minister and acting foreign minister, and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad.

Discusses Ties, 598

JN0608173088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1618 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Aug (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. They discussed the close and brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries and the political situation in the Arab and international arenas, especially the current consultations and deliberations in the United Nations to implement Resolution No 598 calling for an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

The meeting was attended by Latif Nusayyif Jasim, information and culture minister and acting foreign minister; the president's secretary; and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad.

Concludes Visit

JN0608175088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1715 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Aug (INA)—Saudi Foreign Minsiter Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Baghdad this evening after a short visit to Iraq. He was seen off by Latif Nusayyif Jasim, information and culture minister and acting foreign minister, and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad.

President Saddam had received Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal to discuss the close fraternal relations between the two countries and the political situation in the Arab and international arenas, especially the current consultations at the United Nations to implement Resolution No 598 calling for an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

YAR's President Salih, Delegation Depart

JN0408133188 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1226 GMT 4 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Aug (INA)—YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has left Baghdad at the end of an official visit to Iraq. President Saddam Husayn led those who saw President Salih and his accompanying delegation off. Also present were RCC members Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister; and Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, vice president; RCC members; head of the president's office; and the president's secretary.

In a predeparture statement to INA, President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih expressed great satisfaction with the useful and fruitful results achieved by the visit. He said that he discussed with the brother President Saddam Husayn and brother officials the pan-Arab issues and the ways to reinforce the march of Arab solidarity and common action.

President Salih pointed out that recent developments in the Iraq-Iran war and the ongoing international moves and efforts to stop it were foremost among the issues discussed. Salih reiterated the YAR's support for Iraq. He supported Iraq's clear stand aimed at achieving a comprehensive and full implementation of UN Resolution No 598—with all its articles and through direct and peaceful dialogue and negotiations in order to reach a comprehensive peace agreement between the two neighborly countries Iraq and Iran, achieve lasting security and stability in the region, and guarnatee the legitimate rights of all parties.

President Salih said: The YAR has always affirmed its hope that peace, security, and prosperity will prevail in the region. We support all initiatives and efforts to achieve this.

On the other hand, President Salih said the visit was a precious opportunity to be acquainted with the modern development and prosperity and the big achievements which affirm the strength of the fraternal Iraqi people's will and capability to make great changes despite the war.

He added: We are greatly satisfied with the growing development in the fraternal and militant relations between the two fraternal peoples, revolutions, and countries. The visit will open many broad horizons in these relations for more progress, prosperity, and growth.

Communique No 3,288 Details 7-8 Aug Combat

JN0808161088 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1603 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Communique No 3,288 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The results of our units' activities last night and today were as follows:

1. Two large enemy positions were destroyed and six of its personnel were killed in the I Army corps northern sector.

2. A patrol from one of our units in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan raided a number of enemy positions, blowing up four ammunition dumps and destroying the enemy positions. The patrol returned safely to base.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 August 1988

Political Editor Assails Syrian President

JN0808160888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Aug (INA)—The INA political editor has vehemently assailed Hafiz al-Asad, the Syrian regime's president, describing him as a peculiar traitor who renders a service free of charge to Zionism.

In a comment today, the INA political editor said Al-Asad resembles a traitor well-known in Arab history named Ibn al-'Alqami who colluded with the invaders to occupy Baghdad in 656 Hegira. He asserted that Hafiz al-Asad plays a subversive role to disunite the Palestinian Arab people in the service of Zionism. Al-Asad plays a similar role in Lebanon, he added.

The INA political editor said: Ever since Ibn al-'Alqami, who colluded with the invaders to occupy Baghdad, Arab history has not learned of such a traitor and plotter against supreme Arab interest as Hafiz al-Asad. He

added: Hafiz al-Asad is pursuing a policy hostile to fateful pan-Arab causes in Lebanon as well as to the Palestine question and Iraq.

This ruler, who violates the Arab nation's will, has links with international intelligence services that established secret relations between Al-Asad and Zionsim since the very beginning of his political life. These relations contributed to preparing Al-Asad to seize power in Syria and play a multifaceted role against the supreme Arab causes.

The INA political editor pointed out that some circles hostile to the Arab causes, through secret meetings with him, provided an appropriate atmosphere for Hafiz al-Asad to have autocracy in 1966. Al-Asad thus took part in the scheme to abandon the Golan in 1967 when he was defense minister. After 1970, Al-Asad exercised all powers alone in Syria.

Afterward, he played specific roles, led by disuniting the Palestinian people, instigating the Palestinian factions against one another so one would kill one's own brother, and dissipating the capabilities of the Palestinian resistance and diverting their attention from the main battle to engage in marginal battles.

As for the Lebanese arena, Hafiz al-Asad's task was to fragment Lebanon's unity and weaken its capabilities so Israel will be given opportunities to tamper with Lebanon's security, territorial integrity, economy, sovereignty, and the dignity of the Lebanese people.

On the Iraqi front, Hafiz al-Asad's role was to support the Iranian invasion which threatens this Arab country. This aims to fragment Iraq's unity and sovereignty in addition to carrying out a series of maneuvers against the Arabian Gulf's security and vital interests. The INA political editor said: Thus, Hafiz al-Asad is now considered an unrivaled and model theoretician of treason.

Just as Arabs' history had witnessed such a traitor as Ibn al-'Alqami, Arabs today learn of this peculiar traitor who daily renders a service free of charge to Zionism and plays all the roles that Zionism could not play.

However, Hafiz al-Asad is about to lose his mind now because Iraq has realized a great victory on all levels, thus increasing Hafiz al-Asad's feeling of his insignificance and failure after all that he has offered to support the Iranian aggressors agaisnt Iraq.

Shamir Discusses Issues With Richard Murphy

TA0708132888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In his meeting with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that the PLO has been encouraging the ongoing violence in the territories in the hope that the United States will agree to negotiate with it. Consequently, any hint that the United States is getting closer to the PLO encourages violence.

Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the prime minister made it plain to Murphy that administrative detentions are conducted on the basis of unequivocal evidence that the detainees are prominent activists responsible for inciting riots in the territories.

Referring to King Husayn's latest moves, Mr Shamir said they will increase the suffering of the population in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. These moves will not, however, change the situation in those areas or our willingness to enter negotiations within the framework of the Camp David Accords, with Jordan and with Palestinians—who are not PLO members.

Richard Murphy is currently conferring with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

Peres 'Worried' Over Current 'Developments'

TA0708165888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] At the end of his meeting with U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, and following the cabinet debate this morning about King Husayn's moves and the release of Faysal al-Husayni's document, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says he is worried about these developments but that one cannot always be concerned with what others are doing. The question is what are we doing, he said. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami talked with Mr Peres.

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, does Faysal al-Husayni's document change the situation even in the wake of King Husayn's speech?

[Peres] No, it is just another piece of paper. Nobody can dictate anything. If a change occurs in the Middle East, I am sorry to say that it will be caused by either war—whoever the winner may be, although I have no doubt who that will be—or through negotiations. In the absence of either of the two there can be no change.

The PLO and Jordan cannot dictate anything to us. We need not try to effect any unilateral moves whatsoever because these could be harmful in the future. Therefore, the only alternative to the status quo, or to war, is negotiations—this is a fundamental fact. Anybody can propose or publish plans, but these are not binding on anybody.

[Ben-'Ami] Are you not worried about the measures being enforced by King Husayn? For instance, yesterday he decided to close down the Ministry of the Occupied Territories.

[Peres] I am worried, but what of it? First of all, we should be the ones who decide what is to be done. I cannot keep asking what Husayn, Faysal al-Husayni, or others are doing. The question is what Israel is or is not doing. In my opinion, it will be almost impossible to change anything before the elections.

The people will decide after the elections, or through the elections, what they want to do; whether or not they want to move toward peace. If they want peace, they must give a mandate making such a move possible. Of course, we would then check what and who are at hand. Given the fact that we currently find ourselves in a deadend and a stalemate, nothing should be expected to happen before the elections. [end recording]

Rabin Says Peace Process in 'Deep Freeze'

TA0808123788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said he will continue his meetings with Palestinian leaders from the territories regardless of their demands but as long as they are not linked to the PLO. Before beginning his meeting with U.S. Envoy Richard Murphy, Rabin noted that the peace process in the Middle East is in a deep freeze and will remain so until after elections in Israel and the United States.

Richard Murphy noted he does not think so and that Israel should open channels of communications to moderate Palestinians regardless of the elections. Murphy also expressed dissatisfaction at the practice of administrative detentions and home demolitions.

Murphy is slated to arrive in Amman in the afternoon for talks with King Husayn. Husayn arrived in Damascus at noon, and immediately began talks with President al-Asad on his decision to dissociate himself from Judaea and Samaria.

Various Sources React to Al-Husayni Document

Called Not 'Real Document'

TA0708172088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] The Al-Husayni document, which has been given ample coverage in the Israeli media, was not mentioned in the East Jerusalem papers today. The inhabitants of the territories opted to remain silent and did not react to the publication of the document. Some people in East Jerusalem claim that the published document is not the real document. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports:

[Begin recording] The Al-Husayni document, which was accorded wide coverage, would seem to be a collection of ideas based on an article by Professor Jeremy Segal published in THE WASHINGTON POST about a month ago. The three-page document includes seven points describing various ideas, such as the declaration of independence and the establishment of a Palestinian government-in-exile.

It emerged this afternoon that it was not only the defense minister who wondered about the publication of the report; so did many inhabitants of the territories. Some of them pointed out that the report had been published yesterday in the East Jerusalem papers. According to them, however, the report quoted remarks by the PLO representative in Holland who mentioned ideas rather than a real plan. Whatever the case, the PLO has not yet confirmed the existence of any plan whatsoever, and in the opinion of East Jerusalem figures it will wait for the decision of the PNC in Baghdad.

Journalists in East Jerusalem today pointed out that in the wake of the measures proclaimed by Husayn there has been a great deal of talk about the various possibilities entailed in Prof Segal's article. Journalist Da'ud Kutab believes that the document which was published, and which is based on the aforementioned article, is not the real one.

[Kutab—in English] I think what is being discussed by Palestinians is not known to anybody in the press. It is written in Arabic. What is being passed around has nothing to do with the real, genuine declaration.

[Amir translates the above and continues] If that is the case, there would seem to be another document which has not yet been uncovered. [end recording]

Shamir Calls Paper 'Insane'

TA0708191288 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Our Army affairs correspondent Moshe Shlonsky has learned that the publication of Faysal al-Husayni's document was done with the knowledge and approval of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. In an interview this evening, the prime minister said there is nothing wrong with the publication of the document because we now know the true intentions of the Palestinians. Whoever published it had good reasons, the prime minister said. The prime minister was interviewed by our political correspondent Yig'al Goren.

[Begin videorecording] [Goren] Mr Prime Minister, why did you describe the Al-Husayni document as an insane and dangerous idea last night?

[Shamir] If you are referring to the document expounding the establishment of a Palestinian state as the goal of the uprising and the riots in the territories, that is certainly an insane notion because it stands no chance whatsoever of materializing. All camps in Israel—the major blocs at least—regard such a move as a serious threat to our very existence. Therefore, this should be regarded as an abortive notion.

I would say that the very fact that such an idea was published should be cause for greater unity within Israeli society because most of Israeli society objects to it.

[Goren] Alignment members say that the document was leaked intentionally in a bid to create the impression that we actually have nobody to talk to.

[Shamir] Does anybody think we can talk to people whose immediate goal is the establishment of a Palestinian state within the State of Israel or within the 1947 borders? It is good that we now know who we are up against and who is fighting us. It is good that we now know who stands behind those who throw stones and firebombs. As I said before, I think this should unify the nation.

[Goren] In other words, Mr Prime Minister, do you confirm that the document was leaked intentionally in order to expose what you have just said?

[Shamir] I did not say that. I said that I see nothing wrong with the fact that we know the truth. As for the report itself, whoever published it had good reasons to do so. [end videorecording]

Shin Bet Charged With Leak

TA0808045688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Alignment ministers have charged the Prime Minister's Office with responsibility for instructing the Shin Bet to leak the Al-Husayni document. The ministers told our political affairs correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami that the Prime Minister's Office wanted to publish the paper to prove that there is no one among the Palestinians to talk to, and that there is nothing to discuss.

The Prime Minister's Office reacted by saying that it will not confirm the alleged act of leaking the document.

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has said that his office had no knowledge of the Al-Husayni document's existence. Our correspondent Haviva Roger reports that speaking during a tour of Haifa yesterday, Peres said that if Israel does not take the political initiative, it will remain paralyzed. If it does not make proposals of its own, it will not be listened to. Mr Peres believes that little will be done to resolve the conflict prior to the elections; the conflict might exacerbate and opportunities will be lost.

Sinyurah Comments

TA0708194388 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Palestinian figures in the territories have not yet received permission from the PLO to confer with U.S. Envoy Richard Murphy in Cairo later on in his trip in our region. Our correspondent notes that the PLO leadership is apparently at a loss as to what to do in the wake of the publication of the plan for the declaration of independence. Confusion was also evident today in East Jerusalem and the territories. Here is a report by our correspondent Gil Sadan.

[Begin videorecording] [Sadan] The plan for the declaration of independence was found in this building, the site of the Arab Studies Society in East Jerusalem which has been closed by order of the authorities. Figures in East Jerusalem today said, however, that this is not where it was drafted. These figures say that this plan is actually a combination of several draft plans prepared by a Bi'r Zayt University lecturer and a U.S. political science professor, Jerome Segal.

[AL-FAJR editor Hanna Sinyurah—in English] I am certain that Faysal al-Husayni was not the author of the document. He, like many Palestinians, had access to it because it was passed around in order to find out what is the reaction of the local leadership. It is the work of a Palestinian think tank in order to prepare contingency plans for every occasion.

The political vacuum that has been created by the declaration of King Husayn that he is ending the link between Jordan and the West Bank probably gave this document more importance than at the moment we feel it should be given. The important development that has to take shape is that this document has first to be discussed in our legislative body, the Palestine National Council, and if it gets approval there then it could be one of the options that the Palestinians and the PLO can take.

Also, even before that, we have to find feelers with foreign governments: If the Palestinians take such an action, would they get more recognition than the PLO has today or not. If this doesn't develop, then it means that we will be taking a step backward. We need recognition, specifically of Western Europe, the European Community. If the European Community would recognize such an independent Palestinian state, then this step would be very feasible.

[Sadan—in English] If you are asked for your recommendation, will you suggest to go ahead with such a move?

[Sinyurah—in English] My own political thinking on this subject is that yes, it is something that would positively affect the situation.

[Sadan—in English] In what sense? How would it change the situation?

[Sinyurah—in English] One sense is that, after that, we are not talking about recognition of Israel because it is a declaration of a two-state solution. Then nobody can say that the PLO or the Palestinians are for the destruction of the State of Israel because we will say as a result that we want friendly relations with the State of Israel, and we want an end of occupation of another state by Israel.

[Sadan] Reactions in Judaea and Samaria to the reports about the imminent declaration of independence were cautious and restrained today. The events of the last few months have taught the population that there is a long way to go between draft plans and their implementation.

Alignment Ministers, Likud React

TA0708120088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Excerpt] The Alignment ministers met this afternoon after the Cabinet meeting to discuss recent developments in our region. After the meeting they issued a statement saying that neither Jordan nor the Palestinians can dictate a unilateral solution to Israel. Israel would reject outright any attempt to establish a PLO state. Israel would also strongly object to any attempt to impose faits accompli, either by way of violence and terror or by way of an illusive PLO political plan.

The Alignment ministers say there is no need to panic at the sight of one declaration or another. An Israeli initiative for a political process is needed. If Israel advocates a policy of sitting back and doing nothing, embracing the state of deadlock, it will be leaving the grounds vacant for others to take the initiative. The Alignment further says that a unilateral annexation would only make the conflict more difficult and present a threat to Israel's Jewish and democratic nature. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1130 GMT on 7 Aug 88 adds that "The Likud says that the conclusion from the PLO documents that have been exposed and the recent steps taken by King Husayn is that if the Alignment had succeeded in leading to an international conference and a territorial compromise with Jordan, a PLO state would have been founded today in the very heart of Israel. Such a state, led by 'Arafat, Habash, and Hawatimah, would have used its territorial base as a means to push Israel to the 1947 partition lines, the Likud said."]

Defense Source Claims Knowledge of PLO Plan

TA0708071988 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0630 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] A defense source claims that for several months the defense establishment and the police had known about a plan by some residents of the territories to declare an independent Palestinian state. The declaration was supposed to have been made on the Temple

Mount; the defense establishment and police believe that the declaration was to have been made during the events at the end of Ramadan. They therefore deployed large forces to forestall the possibility that such a declaration would increase the riots in the territories.

The source believes that leaking the Palestinian state plan yesterday was meant to neutralize the expected surprise. The leak followed assessments that the PLO Executive Committee, which convened in Baghdad, might implement the plan as a response to Husayn's steps. The source noted that leaking the plan yesterday was also meant to counter criticism of Faysal al-Husayni's administrative detention.

Center Party, CRM, MAPAM Urge Talks With PLO
TA0708104488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] The heads of the Center Party, the Citizens Rights Movement, and MAPAM have called on the Israeli Government to announce its readiness to talk to PLO representatives, provided the organization recognizes Israel and renounces terrorism.

Speaking to our correspondent Razi Barqay, Knesset Members Amnon Rubinstein, Ya'ir Tzaban, and Yosi Sarid claimed that King Husayn's address and the plan published on behalf of the PLO require the Israeli Government to come out with a new political initiative.

Jerusalem Mayor Urges Continuation of Services
TA0708195288 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek announced today that the Jerusalem City Council will provide all the services it is responsible for in East Jerusalem which might be affected by Jordan's moves. At the same time, Mr Kollek pointed out, the government should make sure that the Arab inhabitants of Jerusalem do not suffer as a result of the new Jordanian policy.

According to Teddy Kollek, the dependence of the residents of East Jerusalem on outside elements who affect their daily lives through the supply of funds should be restricted to the minimum. Mr Kollek called on the government to adopt a practical decision on the issue, a decision which he believes will illustrate our determination about our capital city more than anything.

Jordanian 'Separation' Viewed by Israeli Arabs
TA0808165488 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 8 Aug 88 p 3

[Report by Yoram Hamizrahi]

[Text] Jordan's separation from the territories is the key issue preoccupying the Israeli Arabs lately. Most reactions border on enthusiasm. In the press, as in the street, one can see slogans along the lines of "Intisar al-Intifada" ("The Triumph of the Uprising").

RAKAH's organ AL-ITTIHAD issued in Haifa yesterday titled its editorial "The Jordanian Option Is Dead; Long Live the Palestinian State." The editor of this daily, Antoine Shalhat, said that the "separation indicates the partial disillusionment of the Jordanian Government."

Sympathetic reactions, even overt and covert congratulations for this separation process, were also published in other Arab papers representing a large spectrum of views. Thus, for example, AL-DIRA of Knesset Member Darawshah, the leader of the Arab Democratic Party, wrote that "the establishment of a Palestinian state is called for now."

'Abd al-Wahab Darawshah himself, who has just returned from a working visit in Egypt, said yesterday that "the Egyptian leadership has a contented feeling and trusts that King Husayn is sincere in his decision."

Darawshah added: "I heard that Husayn consulted the commanders of his Intelligence and Security Services, asking for an account of the moods prevailing in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Upon hearing that nobody flies Jordanian flags in the streets or hangs his picture in public, he was finally convinced that the Palestinians do not view him as their king."

Ibrahim Nimr Husayn, the head of the Shefar'am local council and the chairman of the Committee of Arab Local Councils, said: "The king was being realistic when he called upon the Israeli Government to understand that it is only with the Palestinians that peace can be made."

Activists of the more radical movements which fully support the PLO's extreme groups said in Nazareth yesterday that "on the surface the separation decision is right. Nevertheless, it is nothing but a Jordanian scheme to blackmail the heroic people."

Egypt Studying Gaza Move Similar to Husayn Step
TA0708100588 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Aug 88 pp A1, 2

[Report by Shefi Gabay and Ilan Bakhar]

[Excerpt] The Egyptian Foreign Ministry is reviewing the possibility of taking measures to cut off links with the Gaza Strip along the lines of King Husayn's moves. This was reported yesterday by the Saudi [as published] AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, citing a senior diplomatic source in Cairo.

According to the source, Cairo is examining the legal status of the Egyptian governor general in the Gaza Strip, whose offices were transferred to Cairo following the 6-Day War. Egypt is currently checking all the areas the governor has been handling, such as education and the issuing of certificates and cards. The idea is to hand over such matters to the PLO.

According to the newspaper, the source claimed that Egypt had on several occasions turned down an Israeli offer to return the Gaza Strip and has similarly rejected Israeli attempts to market Gaza citrus fruits via Egypt.

According to the source, a most senior Egyptian-Jordanian meeting to discuss the Jordanian moves in the West Bank and their implication on the local population is likely. Egypt has expressed willingness to assist the PLO in setting up a Palestinian government-in-exile.

A senior Egyptian source has refused to confirm reports that Egypt intends to cut itself off from the Gaza Strip. He told MA'ARIV that Egypt received the Gaza Strip in 1948 in trust to preserve its Palestinian character. "We never claimed the Gaza Strip is Egyptian soil. We have always emphasized that we will return this property, given to us in trust, to its legal owners." [passage omitted]

Egyptians Said 'Intransigent, Rigid' in Tabah Talks

TA0808155288 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] A stalemate has emerged at the end of the first round of talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations on the question of Tabah. 'Aqiva Eldar, HA'ARETZ correspondent in Cairo, reports the remarks of Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office.

[Begin Ben-Aharon recording] I do not see that there will be a lot to discuss on the issue of Tabah if the Egyptians persist in their position. The legal adviser of the Department of State and his aides are scheduled to arrive this evening. As is known, he has been trying to bridge the differences and he gave us reason to believe the Egyptians are flexible on several points.

This flexibility, however, had been unacceptable to us because it had been very far from meeting our needs, as we see them. The three delegations will sit together tomorrow, and we will see whether a change has occurred in the Egyptian position. If that is not the case, we will pack our suitcases and go back to Israel. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1500 GMT on 8 August adds: "At the end of a meeting with Egyptian officials in Cairo on the question of Tabah, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office said that the Egyptians are intransigent and rigid and are not prepared to forgo their sovereignty over Tabah. Talking to our correspondent in Cairo, Aharon Barne'a, Ben-Aharon said that the Egyptians had informed him that they even intend to enforce the Egyptian laws in effect in southern Sinai in Tabah, namely: The compulsory presentation of passports upon entering Tabah and the transfer of responsibility for security to Egyptian police; the hotel in Tabah would be mostly owned by Egypt, and the hotel staff would be made up of at least 90 percent Egyptian employees. The official negotiations on Tabah will begin tomorrow. The Israeli delegation will confer with the Egyptian foreign minister tomorrow and will raise other issues related to Israeli-Egyptian relations in the talk."]

Soviets Said To Agree To Upgrade Commercial Ties

TA0808162488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Dani Gillerman, president of the Israeli Chambers of Commerce, is in the Soviet Union and claims to have already conferred with high-level figures, including government ministry officials.

Our economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that Gillerman arrived in the Soviet Union from Helsinki, where he had attended an international convention. From Moscow, he reported to Israel's economic ministers that he has attained Soviet agreement to upgrading commercial ties between the two countries, even before diplomatic relations are established. He also claims to have reached an accord to set up bilateral Chambers of Commerce, and claims that the Soviets told him that they are following the development of Israeli relations with Hungary and Poland with interest. Israel has not yet received any confirmation of Gillerman's remarks.

Right To Appeal Home Demolitions Limited

TA0708164588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] The security forces will not allow the tenants of a house against which a demolition order has been issued to voice their complaints to the authorities or the High Court of Justice if the military commander believes the circumstances require speedy deterrence that very same day. This was announced today in an affidavit which the State Attorney's Office submitted on behalf of the defense minister to the High Court of Justice.

The affidavit was in response to an appeal by the Civil Rights Association asking that the security forces be instructed to enable the tenants of a house facing demolition to voice their claims, to have a 48-hour period in which they can appeal to the High Court of Justice, and to contact an attorney. Our correspondent 'Adi Malul adds that it was stated in the affidavit that the tenants of such houses will normally be able to submit their claims to the military commander, and later to the High Court of Justice. They will, however, be denied this option in grave cases resulting in fatalities or critical injuries.

More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories

Biddiya Mukhtar Shot

TA0708171888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] An assassination attempt was carried out in the territories. A short time ago the mukhtar of the village of Biddiya was shot while in his house and wounded in the stomach. The assailants shot him with a Carl Gustaf sub-machine gun. The man was taken to Me'ir Hospital in Kefar Sava.

Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the security forces have closed off the area near the settlement of Ari'el and are conducting searches. Ron Nahman, the head of the Ari'el local council, said this is the second assassination attempt against the mukhtar of Biddiya. He called for the death sentence to be given to hit men attacking inhabitants of the territories.

Biddiya Under Curfew

TA0808113688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Excerpt] The village of Biddiya, the site of an assassination attempt against the village mukhtar yesterday, is under curfew. The security forces are conducting a thorough investigation to locate the assassins. Quiet has otherwise prevailed in Judaea and Samaria today, which means, among other things, that many laborers left for work in Israel. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports from Ari'el:

No exceptional incidents were recorded in Samaria this morning. The villages of Qabatiyah and Husayn remain under curfew today. The security forces are continuing their intensive search for the would-be assassins of the Biddiya mukhtar. There is a reasonable suspicion that local villagers were involved in the assassination attempt. [passage omitted]

King Cancels West Bank Higher Committee

JN0608102788 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Jordan's King Husayn issued a royal decree today canceling the higher Jordanian committee for the occupied territory affairs. This committee was formed in 1972 to make all extraordinary decisions in the West Bank to face the occupation. Amman sources said an official statement in this regard will be issued this afternoon.

This measure falls within the framework of the recent Jordanian measures to disengage the relationship between Jordan and the occupied Palestinian territory.

Royal Decree Issued

JN0608115888 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] A royal decree has been issued approving the cabinet's decision to dissolve the higher committee for the occupied West Bank affairs.

The committee was set up on September 14 1980.

King Husayn Issues Decree To Reshuffle Cabinet

JN0608113488 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1106 GMT 6 aug 88

[Text] We have just received the following:

A royal decree has been issued accepting the resignation of His Excellency Rashid 'Urayqat, minister of labor and social development. 'Urayqat tendered his resignation for health reasons.

A royal decree was also issued appointing Marwan Dudin as labor minister; 'Abd al-Salam Kan'an as minister of supply; and His Excellency Dr Fawwaz Tuqan as minister of social development.

His Excellency Dr Fawwaz Tuqan took the constitutional oath before his majesty the king. His Excellency 'Abd al-Salam Kan'an will take the constitutional oath on Monday as he is presently outside the Kingdom.

In a statement to our correspondent, the prime minister said the Occupied Territories Affairs Ministry will become an independent department named the Palestinian Affairs Department and will be linked to the foreign minister.

Council of Ministers Approves

JN0608173488 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1708 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] The Council of Ministers has approved a draft law canceling the law of the occupied territories affairs, and approved a system amending the system and administration of the Foreign Ministry, which included the creation of an independent department called the Palestinian Affairs Department to be linked with the foreign minister.

The Council of Ministers also approved another system amending the system of organizing relations among ministries, departments, and public institutions, which included the creation of the Palestinian Affairs Department to be linked with the foreign minister.

Reshuffle 'Not Final Measure'

JN0708074588 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 7 Aug 88 p 1

[By Salamah B. Ni'mat, JORDAN TIMES Economics correspondent]

[Text] Amman—Marwan Dudin, who was appointed minister of labour after a Royal Decree abolished the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs Saturday, said the newly-created Department of Palestinian Affairs would take over the bulk of the abolished ministry's work.

In an interview with the JORDAN TIMES, Dudin explained that the now-abandoned development plan for the occupied territories constituted only 15 per cent of the volume of the ministry's work and that 85 per cent of the ministry's functions would be carried out by the new department to be linked to the Foreign Ministry.

Dudin said the government had no intention to dismantle all the economic and legal infrastructure in the occupied West Bank. "What we are doing is to dissolve whatever looked like an institutionalised relationsip" with the West Bank, Dudin said in the interview. He explained that Jordan was looking into "all possible venues towards translating our political will into a clear situation."

The minister said the limited cabinet reshuffle announced Saturday was not the final measure to be adopted by the government and that other measures might follow "until things are put in their proper perspective."

He said it was up to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to "say loud and clear" when the relationship between Jordan and the occupied West Bank has been clarified.

Asked whether the Jordanian law would continue to be in force on the West Bank, Dudin said that since Israel occupied the area in 1967, the occupation authorities in charge of the occupied territories had been selectively applying Jordanian laws "in the way that suits them." He said the Israelis sometimes use British laws (such as expulsions) as well as Israeli laws to serve occupation purposes.

Officials Discuss Recent Measures, Passports

JN0808145288 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Randa Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] According to a Jordanian official, Palestinians of the West Bank who hold Jordanian passports have ceased to be Jordanian citizens since King Husayn disengaged the legal and administrative relationship with the West Bank. He also emphasized that the passports they will keep shall be mere travel documents.

The Jordanian monarch yesterday declared that the West Bankers will retain their Jordanian passports until Palestinian state is set up, when they will have passports of that state.

Meanwhile, Jordan's Interior Minister Raja'i al-Dajani told our radio that readjustments are now being made to reflect the spirit of the Jordanian decision. The ministry's decision, explained Al-Dajani, will take into consideration all circumstances and will facilitate the daily lives of these territories. He indicated that the Jordanian measures are not a punishment but seek to project the Palestinian identity toward setting up a Palestinian state.

Al-Dajani stressed that citizenship denotes the country to which subjects are affiliated. It means that its holders are subjects of the country who have rights and are bound by obligations. The passports are no more than travel documents. The minister recalled that over a year ago, Gazans who were not Jordanian citizens were issued provisional passports.

Al-Dajani on Ammendment of Election Law

JN0908081988 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 9 Aug 88 p 1

[Text] Amman—Minister of Interior Raja'i al-Dajani has announced that parliamentary general elections for the East Bank will not be held until the Election Law of 1986 is ammended.

In an exclusive statement to AL-RA'Y, Al-Dajani explained that a special committee will be set up to study and ammend the Election Law in accordance with the measures of disengaging legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, as far as the electoral constituencies and the seats allocated to it are concerned.

Al-Dajani affirmed that the camps as electroal constituencies will be reconsidered and the names of the registered voters in those camps will be incorporated within other electoral constituencies.

Al-Dajani added that the committee in charge of ammending the Election Law will meet soon to draw up its initial concepts on the ammendments which will be made on some of the articles of the law.

Al-Dajani said the process of registration and review of the electoral lists will continue until 15 August. He affirmed that the citizens' right to elections is a right which has to be preserved for every citizen.

King Husayn Addresses Several Issues

On PLO Struggle

JN0608193488 Amman Television Service in English 1908 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] His majesty the king this evening called on the prime minister's office and presided over a cabinet meeting. His majesty voiced his thanks to the prime minister and ministers.

His majesty declared his confidence in the government and the efforts it is making to perform its duties. His majesty reviewed Jordan's pan-Arab position, from which it will never deviate especially with regard to the Palestinian cause. His majesty explained the circumstances which led to the adoption of the recent decisions as well as the suffering and agony which accompanied the making of the decisions.

His majesty also spoke about the efforts made so that the measures could promote the struggle of the brotherly Palestinians under the leadership of the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of Palestinian people. His majesty asserted that Jordan would continue to support Palestinian rights on the Palestinian soil. His majesty also spoke about the conspiracies aimed at directing world opinion and attention with views to creating considerations so that the Palestinian struggle could miss its original goals. The campaign, his majesty added, would also aim at propagating Israeli claims about the number and percentages of the population in Jordan.

His majesty voiced his appreciation of the Jordanians' commitment to their national unity and declared Jordan's total support for the Palestinian people and their uprising in the occupied territories.

On Iraqi Initiative

JN0708194888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Amman, 7 Aug (INA)—King Husayn of Jordan has expressed his appreciation for and satisfaction with the positive initiative that was announced by President

Saddam Husayn yesterday regarding a cease-fire provided that Iran should clearly and officially announce its agreement to enter into direct negotiations with Iraq immediately after the cease-fire.

In an exclusive statement to an INA correspondent in Amman, King Husayn said that this positive and constructive initiative expresses Iraq's desire to bring about peace between the two countries based on the principle of good neighborliness and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. He also said that with God's help and through brother President Saddam Husayn's leadership and the support of the sons of Iraq, the Arabs' fortress, for him, Iraq will achieve victory in the near future.

King Husayn added: I am satisfied with brother President Sadam Husayn's initiative to end the war, which will enter its 9th year, and I hope that this position is a step toward ending the war and the state of confusion which have prevailed in the region for some time and toward terminating the Iranian aggression against the sacred Iraqi territory.

Asked about the need to hold face-to-face negotiations, King Husayn said that these negotiations are inevitable as a vehicle to find a just and peaceful settlement and that President Saddam has left the door open for these negotiations as soon as possible in order to reach a just and honorable peace under the banners of victory and amid Iraq's growing capability.

On Iraqi Military Aid

JN0608131688 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 6 Aug 88

["Text" of letter from King Husayn, supreme commander in chief of the Armed Forces, to Field Marshal Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces Dated 6 August]

[Text] Your Excellency, Field Marshal Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces:

I send to you and to all the Jordanian Armed Forces personnel—officers, NCO'S and soldiers—my complete love, trust, and confidence. It gives me pleasure to share with you the joy of acquiring new arms and equipemnt, which we received as a brotherly gift from the victorious Iraqi Army which won them in the battle of honor and pride in defense of the Arab people in brotherly Iraq and our Arab glorious nation in its eastern gate.

On behalf of all of you, I extend thanks to His Excellency President Saddam Husayn for this gesture which came as a bright pan-Arab beacon that deepens our faith in our Arab order and ability to champion our pan-Arab causes with steadfastness, sacrifice, and preparedness. Furthermore, on your behalf, I salute your valiant comrades, members of the brotherly Iraqi Army, for what they have accomplished thanks to their courage and sacrifices. Their successes will remain a source of pride for the brotherly Iraqi people, who have been msot generous.

This gift is dear and precious and cannot possibly be measured in material terms or in money but rather in terms of its inherent meanings, the big hopes it holds out, and precious Arab values it represents. It is the gift of heroes scented with the perfume of the martyrs' blood and the message from brother to brother redolent with love and faithfulness.

It is the gift of the heroic Iraqi Army to its brother the dignified Arab army, heir to the goals of the Great Arab Revolt, embodiment of its substance, and defender of its principles. It is the banner of sacrifice. It is the banner that you have received from those who have raced each other to martyrdom and achieved victory. By God, you have always rallied around and protected this banner. God willing, you will keep the pledge and hold the trust. May God bless you and peace be upon you.

[Dated] Amman, 6 August 1988

King Husayn, Delegation Depart for Damascus

JN0808101188 Amman Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] His majesty the king left Amman for Damascus today on a working visit to Syria during which he will hold talks with President Hafiz al-Asad within the framework of continued consultations and coordination between the two leaders on various Arab issues.

His majesty was seen off by His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad, the personal representative of his majesty; the chief of the Royal Court, the chief chamberlain; the commander in chief of the Armed Forces; and a number of civil and military officials.

His majesty the king is accompanied by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah.

Return 8 Aug

JN0808192688 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn returned to the homeland at the end of a short working visit to the Syrian Arab Republic during which he held talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the Arab-Israeli conflict, the latest developments in the region, the situation in the Arab arena, and issues of common concern to the two brotherly countries. [passage omitted]

His majesty was received upon return by His Highness Prince Muhammad, his majesty's personal representative; the chief of the Royal Hashemite court; the chief chamberlain; the commander in chief of the Armed

Forces; and a number of officials. Returning with his majesty were Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah. [passage omitted]

Husayn, Mubarak Discuss 'Arab Issues'

JN0508171888 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Aug 88

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn this evening held a telephone conversation with his brother His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. The two leaders exchanged views on a number of Arab issues of mutual interest.

AL-DUSTUR Editorial on Close Ties With PLO

JN0108092688 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Aug 88 pp 21, 221

["News analysis" by Rakan al-Majali: "National Unity Is the Sacred Guarantee"]

[Text] In his speech last night, King Husayn affirmed that national unity is sacred. The clear speech on the latest measures and the reasons that led to them was an occasion to dot the i's and cross the t's and a practical translation of the national decision on Palestinian representation. The decision is implemented through legal and administrative disengagement with the West Bank in a manner that eliminates any sensibilities, doubts or conflict with the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in order to help the PLO to carry out its role in establishing an independent Palestinian state.

There was misunderstanding in the past. There is a crisis of confidence and the PLO is not pleased with any role carried out by Jordan within the occupied territory. While Jordan believed it was carrying out its duty and giving assistance and support, the PLO considered that such action undermines its role and hampers its moves within the occupied territory.

Therefore, it was necessary to have clarity and to eliminate any points of friction in the relationship. The PLO has the right to ask to be the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and then it must bear the consequences, duties, and responsibilities of that representation and assume responsibility for all citizens' affairs in the occupied territory.

There remains the sacred national unity in Jordan, where every individual here is a Jordanian who has equal rights and duties with every other individual. No one in this country has more rights than another. This is our country in whose construction, rise, and progress we have all participated. We all have the same responsibility to forge its future. Every citizen is a responsible partner in defending his existence which is linked to national unity and uniting the ranks to confront any threats that aim to divide brothers.

We in Jordan do not accept any tune that suggests regionalism, tribal or sectarian fanaticism, or anything of the kind. Jordan is for everyone, and the responsibility for internal construction and for defending it falls on everyone. Every person on this land is Jordanian. In the words of King Husayn yesterday, who can claim he has more in Palestine than in Jordan. Every Jordanian has yearned for martyrdom for the cause of Palestine. When I say Jordanian, I mean all those who are in Jordan are Jordanian in their affiliation, in their responsibility for work, uniting the ranks, and defending the homeland.

In the same sense, every Jordanian is a Palestinian in his commitment to the Palestine cause and in seeking to liberate Palestine by every means. The belief that every individual in this homeland is Palestinian and is for Palestine springs from our belief in our sacred cause and a national spirit based on the affirmation that the fabric of Jordan's existence lies in a solid national unity to stand in the face of threats and challenges.

Through such a patriotic spirit and national responsibility toward Palestine, our belief that national unity is sacred—and that calling one Jordanian means that he is Palestinian and calling one Palestinian means that he is Jordanian—is strengthened.

Jerusalem Figure on Effects of West Bank Move

JN0208150988 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Aug 88 pp 1, 19

[By Tawfiq 'Abid]

[Text] Jerusalem Governor Anwar al-Khatib said that the Arab and Palestinian quarters which made Jordan disengage the legal and adminsitrative relationship between the West and East Banks "did not take into consideration the repercussions of this decision on the Palestinian people inside the occupied territories and Israel's reaction which affects both land and people."

In an exclusive statement to AL-DUSTUR, Al-Khatib said this is not the first time the Arabs have made decisions without realizing their effect on the occupied territories. He said after the Rabat summit resolution the fiercest settlement campaign was launched as a Zionist translation of this resolution.

Al-Khatib affirmed that the suffering of our steadfast kinfolk will become more servere. He said these resolutions give Israel an opportunity to make measures, the least of which is applying the Israeli law with all its cruelty and hardships on the occupied territories and giving a free hand to the wolf-like settlers.

He said: "Our Islamic institutions are threatened now more than ever before and I hope that Arabs and the PLO will hear this. The Ministry of Awqaf which shelters

us assumes a great deal of tasks, the most important of which is preserving the Al-Aqsa mosque for whose sake we are waging as sharp conflict with the occupation authorities."

He wondered: "What is the fate of the Islamic courts and the Al-Aqsa renovation committee which is linked with its presidency in Amman?" He said that since the first days of occupation the occupation authorities proposed to finance the expenditures of the Islamic courts provided that Islamic judges take the oath of allegiance before the president of the Zionist entity. He said: "However, we rejected that under an Islamic ruling stipulating that the decisions of an Islamic justice who is appointed by a non-Islamic quarter are null."

He said when he returns to Jerusalem during the next few days he will try to contact Palestinian personalities in the West Bank and Gaza to form a general opinion there from which a delegation would stem to represent our steadfast kinfolk in the occupied homeland. This delegation will tour Arab capitals and will meet the senior officials who forced Jordan to take these meaures in an attempt to convince them to reconsider their stands to relieve the land and people sticking to it courageously and patiently.

Al-Khatib said that those who forced Jordan to make this decision have harmed the Palestinians. He said: "Our cause has not progressed even 1 inch, in fact it has retreated."

Answering a question he said: "I tell PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat that if there is any hope for any political solution to the Palestine question, it can be only through joint Jordanian-Palestinian coordination. Without this there is no hope for a political solution."

He said: "We are awaiting the results of the Jordanian-Palestinian summit which will be held in Amman very soon. We hope it will yield results which will stress the unity of the two banks, not further measures of separation."

He added that there is no way possible to separate the two banks. He said the idea of separation lacks any basis.

Answering a question, he said His Majesty the Late King 'Abdallah ibn Husayn firmly confronted those who criticized him when he ordered the army to enter Jerusalem and expel the Haganah gangs which were stationed in some positions.

He added: "However, I cannot advise His Majesty King Husayn to reject the voices calling for the separation of the two banks because the current circumstances are completely different from the past. The new generation is completely unaware of how the West Bank in general and Jerusalem in particular were saved in 1948 and of the Jordanian Army's role in that."

He said that as governor of Jerusalem, he saved the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque from the recent excavations which the Israeli authority of antiquities was planning to carry out in order to dig a tunnel to look for alleged temples. He affirmed that these excavations have been completely suspended and that the tunnel has been closed and paved.

He wondered: "In this capacity (as Jerusalem governor), I used to struggle against the occupation authorities because Jordanian law was being applied in the West Bank. Now after the separation of the two banks, in what capacity shall I struggle?"

He said the Arabs entered Palestine in 1948, fought against each other, and left it defeated. He said only Jordan embraced us while some Arab countries put Palestinians in jails, as Mustafa al-Nahhas, the then Egyptian prime minister, did.

On the situation in the West Bank, 8 months after the beginning of the blessed uprising, he said the citizens are disciplined and will not retreat out of fear from Israeli punishment. He regretted that no political initiatives have appeared so far to exploit the uprising in a political action which secures complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories.

Concluding his statement, Al-Khatib wonders: "If Jordan suspends its support for the national institutions in the occupied homeland, how can the PLO handle that while the Palestinian flag is being pursued everywhere?"

Israeli Planes Raid Palestinian Positions

NC0908072088 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0716 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Here is a news flash from the editor's desk:

Israeli warplanes raided the Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp and east of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah area at 1003 today. Antiaircraft fire was directed at them and sirens were sounded in Sidon in anticipation of any attack.

Further Raids Near Sidon

NC0908075288 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0741 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] According to reports from the south, Israeli warplanes carried out several raids against Palestinian positions in the Sidon area. The targets were Palestinian military positions in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah camps, the road to Iqlim al-Tuffah, and the 'Ayn al-Dulb area.

We have just received reports that a squadron of four Israeli warplanes renewed bombardment of the same area, in addition to Al-Ashrafiyah, Al-Miyah wa Miyah, and [word indistinct].

Fatah Camp, School Hit

NC0908081588 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] According to the NNA correspondents in Sidon, hostile Israeli aircraft fired eight rockets at a Palestinian position behind the Al-Miyah wa Miyah school and followed them with another two rockets on the same position after 2 minutes.

The Israeli aggression also involved the Palestinian radio station and a Fatah camp. A person called Sa'd Sayil was reportedly moved to one of Sidon's hospitals.

At the same time as this aggression took place, Israeli gunboats were sighted off the Sidon coast.

Ambulances are now evacuating the wounded and smoke is billowing from the target area.

2 Killed; Raids Resume

NC0908112088 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Enemy aircraft staged successive raids on the Al-Miyah wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah camps east of Sidon this morning. The aggression was carried out at first by four fighter planes that bombarded in successive waves Palestinian positions between the two camps starting at 0955 today. There were 10 raids in 75 minutes, which caused heavy casualties and material damages that are not yet known.

According to reports from our correspondent in Sidon, the first attack began at 0955 with four aircraft. It was followed by another attack at 1005, a third one 10 minutes later, a fourth one 2 minutes after that, a fifth attack at 1030, and a sixth 5 minutes later. The attacking Israeli aircraft fired eight rockets at a Palestinian position behind the Al-Miyah wa Miyah school. They followed this attack with two more rockets on the same position, and a third attack after 2 minutes. The aggression included the Palestinian radio station and a Fatah Movement camp.

Later reports said that the Israeli aircraft attacked both civilian and military areas in successive waves. Our correspondent reported that the enemy planes staged four raids between 1100 and 1110. The enemy planes then resumed their hostile sorties till 1230. Thus, the enemy raid has continued for 3 and ½ hours.

The attacks centered on the Al-Miyah wa Miyah ridges and the Al-Mujamma' area and the targets were positions belonging to Fatah, the PFLP, and the DFLP. The raids also involved the Jinsyana road, Iqlim al-Tuffah, Al-Sayrubiyah, Al-Ashrafiyah, and 'Ayn al-Dulb.

The raids' targets were, in particular, the military installations and roads, and they were limited to a 3-square-km area abutted by housing centers. While the planes continued to fly over the area, Palestinian defense systems and antiaircraft positions confronted the attacking planes with Strella rockets.

Later reports from our correspondent said that a number of fires broke out, including a big one in a warehouse east of Al-Miyah wa Miyah where smoke was seen billowing from the raided sites.

The latest reports said that it is impossible to know the exact number of casualties because of the intensive raids, but police and hospital sources spoke in their preliminary reports of 2 dead and 10 injured.

Israeli gunboats appeared off the Sidon coast at the same time as the raids.

We received a report just before coming to the studio saying that the Israeli raids have been resumed.

Station Transmitter Intact

NC0908115688 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Excerpt] A Palestinian source has reported that 24 heavy bombs have hit the sector which houses the PLO radio station broadcasting to the occupied territories. The same source asserted that a bomb hit the entrance to the station, but that no damage to the transmitter was caused. [passage omitted]

Israeli Forces Advance 5 km Into South

NC0808135388 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] According to reports from the south, the Israeli occupation forces have brought large military reinforcements to their posts in the central sector, particularly on the Sujud and Al-Rayhan Hills and Jabal Safi overlooking the Iqlim al-Tuffah region. They also stationed military reinforcements along the Lib'a, 'Ayn al-Mir, and Kafr Falus combat lines east of Sidon.

In another development, an Israeli armored force crossed the Zummarayya crossing gate in the eastern sector of the occupied border strip and advanced 5 km into the area. The force strafed the area with machineguns and rockets, and arrested a number of farmers.

Disbanding of Islamic Jihad Reported

NC0908072888 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 8 Aug 88 p 6

[Text] It has been revealed that there was a decision to disband the Islamic Jihad Organization which has claimed responsibility in the past few years for kidnapping most of the foreign hostages in Lebanon.

According to the same information, the organization has disintegrated rapidly following the arrest of one of its leaders, 'Abbas Zurayq, who was responsible for the group that robbed banks, by an Islamic party that used to embrace the organization.

Another leader of the organization called Hasan 'Izz al-Din, who is reported to have been involved in the hijacking of a TWA airliner some years back, is being pursued by the same party.

Hasan al-Musawi, brother of Islamic Amal Movement leader Husayn al-Musawi, has also dropped all his partisan activities following some changes in his beliefs.

With the disbandment of the organization, there are increasing questions about the fate of the hostages and the place to which they have been moved. The same reports note that the issue of the hostages and the barter for them will from now on depend on the progress of negotiations which a non-Arab regional party will start soon. This party was the one behind the decision to disband the Islamic Jihad Organization after having suggested its establishment.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani 'in Charge' of Hostages

NC0908075388 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 8 Aug 88 p 8

[Text] After Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani became the strongest man in Iran after Imam Khomeyni, the guide of the Islamic Republic entrusted him with the task of being personally in charge of the issue of foreign hostages in Lebanon, thus cancelling a committee formed last year by Imam Khomeyni himself which included President of the Republic 'Ali Khamene'i, Revolutionary Guards Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust, and Revolutionary Guards Commander Mohsen Reza'i.

Rafsanjani is linking the fate of the hostages in Lebanon to Washington's action on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598, through which Tehran is seeking to conclude a political deal with the United States at the expense of Iraq.

Fadlallah Denies Meeting Journalist on Hostages

NC0908082388 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 8 Aug 88 p 12

[Text] Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has denied that he met with Abdelkader Sahraoui, a German journalist of Algerian origin acting as an intermediary in the issue of German hostage Rudolf Cordes. A statement made yesterday, which AFP attributes to Scholar Fadlallah's office, said: Fadlallah did not meet with Sahraoui because Fadlallah is not concerned with this matter. He has always called for resolving the hostage issue and closing this file.

Sahraoui said in Bonn 2 days ago that he had met with Fadlallah some time ago and that negotiations may lead to the immediate release of Cordes.

Communist Party Issues Statement on Elections

NC0608122188 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] The Lebanese Communist Party [LCP] has stressed that any president who does not make his first priority the expulsion of the Israeli occupation forces, the removal of the vestiges of the Phalangist regime, and the elimination of the hegemony of the Lebanese Forces militia and other sectarian armed gangs will be unable to assume the Presidency. Nor will any president who does not restore real independence to the country, establish unique relations with fraternal Syria, and restore to Lebanon its pure Arab image be able to function. Such a president would not be able to manage the crisis but would only aggravate it and make the situation still worse.

The LCP Politburo has issued a statement saying that it is not possible to accept the imposition of a president of the same mold as that imposed by Israeli tanks and U.S. custodianship. It added that any president chosen on the basis of such a program will only sink Lebanon deeper in the quagmire into which it was mired by the Phalangist regime, which is backed by Israel, the United States, and Arab reaction.

The LCP Politburo statement adds: It is in light of these developments that we observe insolent attempts and endeavors by the Americans, their envoy Richard Murphy, and his apologists to reenact what they did in 1982. If the balance of power in 1982 allowed the imposition of

a Phalangist president, then events between 1982 and 1988 have changed this balance of power drastically. The United States is no longer dependent on an Israeli military force to surround the B'abda Palace as it did [in 1982] following the blow dealt to the nationalist, progressive, and Arab forces in Lebanon.

The LCP adds that it joins all other Lebanese nationalists in declaring strongly: No to Murphy; no to U.S. custodianship; no to a president imposed on Lebanon through the embassies of imperialism; no to a president who does not express our people's yearning for complete liberation from Israeli occupation and who does not adhere to Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, Arabism, and democracy. It stressed that Murphy and his clique cannot impose now—when U.S. positions in the world are being shaken and when the Israeli Army is staggering under the blows of the national Lebanese resistance and the Palestinian people's uprising—what the United States and the Israeli Army could not impose in the course of 6 years.

Concluding, the LCP statement calls on all Lebanese Communists, nationalists, and democrats to express in every possible way this national, democratic, free, sovereign, independent, and Arab stand.

Fighting Reported on Beirut's Combat Lines

NC0808191888 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1905 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Clashes with small- and medium-caliber machineguns have been taking place on Beirut's combat lines since 2145 today. Flares are being dropped over Kafr Shima-Al-Hadath.

Meanwhile, it has transpired that the explosion to which we referred at the end of the news summary at 2145 resulted from the detonation of an explosive charge in the Al-Bashurah area in West Beirut.

In another development, during a quarrel between elements of the Syrian occupation forces and Hizballah members near the central telephone exchange in the southern suburb this evening, a Hizballah member was beaten up and suffered grave injuries.

Syrian Injured

NC0808195888 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] It has transpired that the explosion, which occurred at approximately 2140 tonight, was caused by an explosive charge which had been planted in the Al-Bashurah area in West Beirut near a Syrian occupation forces position. The explosion wounded a member of the Syrian intelligence service, who was taken to the American University of Beirut Hospital.

Al-Shuf Fighting Leaves 2 Dead, Others Injured

NC0808074988 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Excerpt] A state of tension now prevails in Kitrmaya and Barja townships in the Al-Shuf region following clashes among locals yesterday. During the clashes, which involved the use of rockets, guns, and machineguns, two persons were killed and a number of others wounded. Nabil Bashashah, commander of the region's Martyrs Battalion and who is aligned with the Syrians and the PFLP, was killed during the clashes.

According to reports, Bashashah tried to enter Kitrmaya with a number of his aides last night to pacify the inhabitants. He was ambushed at the approach to the town when a rocket was fired at his car. He was killed, as was his aide Mughirah al-Khatib, while a number of his companions were wounded. [passage omitted]

1 Dead, 2 Hurt in 'Violent' Al-Dawrah Clash

NC0708114788 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] High tension now prevails in Al-Dawrah [in East Beirut] following a violent clash between the Lebanese Forces and the Lebanese Army in the brewery area at dawn today. Rockets and heavy-caliber machineguns were employed in the 3-hour clash. Security sources said that in the clash in the Valentino bar near the brewery at 0330 one person was killed and two others wounded. Immediately afterward a Lebanese Forces civilian police unit arrived at the scene to fight with the gunmen.

Lebanese Forces sources have said the gunmen had laid ambush and charged that they were Lebanese Army commandos. A source close to the Lebanese Forces has accused the Army of attempting to arrest the civilian policemen, who had sought assistance from the Lebanese Forces.

At approximately 0430 today a fierce battle took place between the Lebanese Forces and the Army, involving the use of rockets and heavy-caliber machineguns. The exchange of fire continued until about 0700, when contacts succeeded in containing the clash and gunmen were withdrawn upon the arrival of the Lebanese Army's military police force. Security sources said the clash resulted in huge property losses but made no mention of casualties among the civilians or gunmen.

1982 Cluster Bomb Kills 2 in Southern Suburb

NC0808163488 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Security sources have explained that the explosion which took place this evening in the Al-Ruways neighborhood of the southern suburb, in which two people were killed and two others were wounded, was caused by a cluster bomb left over from the 1982 war. The bomb exploded while being dismantled.

Briefs

New Zairian Ambassador

President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil today received the credentials of General Babia Zongbi Malobia, the new Zairian ambassador to Lebanon, in the presence of Foreign ministry Secretary General Amir Faruq Abu al-Lama' and Director of Protocol Marun Haymari. [Text] [*NC0508162088 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 Aug 88*]

Reportage on Visit by Jordan's King Husayn

Arrives, Begins Talks

JN0808115188 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan arrived in Damascus at 1230 today. Heading those receiving him at the airport was His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad.

Also receiving him were Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, the deputy prime ministers, a number of ministers, the Syrian ambassador in Amman, and the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Damascus.

His Majesty King Husayn is accompanied by a Jordanian delegation comprising Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah.

After reception ceremonies, the president and his grand guest headed in an official motorcade for the Presidential Palace.

At 1445 today, talks between His Excellency Hafiz al-Asad and His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan began. They were attended on the Syrian side by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah.

Holds 'Closed Meeting'

JN0808142288 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Damascus—The official talks between His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad resumed in Damascus this afternoon. The two leaders held a closed meeting.

The official talks between His majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad began at the Presidential Palace in Damascus immediately after his majesty's arrival in the Syrian capital at noon today. The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah. They were attended on the Syrian side by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

His Majesty King Husayn and his accompanying delegation had lunch with President al-Asad.

Departs Damascus

JN0808175288 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan left Damascus at 1915 today. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad led the farewell party at the airport. Also on hand were Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, the deputy prime ministers, cabinet ministers, the Syrian ambassador in Amman, and Jordan's charge d'affaires in Damascus.

Rally Held in Support of Egypt's Revolution Group

JN0508055888 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 4 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Under the patronage of Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, the national committee for the defense of Egypt's Revolution Organization and Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir held a speech rally at the headquarters of the Syrian General Federation of Trade Unions this evening.

The rally is being held in support of the heroes of Egypt's Revolution Organization in their confrontation of the Camp David regime and their struggle to have Egypt resume its militant vanguard role in the Arab nation's march after it liberates itself from the shackles with which it has been fettered.

Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, Ba'th Party National Command reserve member, attended the rally on behalf of Comrade al-Ahmar. [passage omitted]

Comrade Dr Sayyagh delivered a speech in which he conveyed greetings from the Ba'th Party Command and its secretary general comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic. Dr Sayyagh also spoke about the meaning of the 23 September revolution in fraternal Egypt and of its objectives which have constituted a serious turning point in Egypt and the Arab homeland. He praised the action undertaken by Egyptian nationalists, particularly the Egypt's Revolution Organization and their confrontation of the Egyptian regime which is on the bandwagon of imperialism and Zionism.

Comrade Dr Sayyagh reiterated Syria's stand under comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the Republic, and Syria's pan-Arab policy of confrontation of the schemes targeted against the Arab militant causes in general. He added Syria will pursue this policy and will continue its struggle until pan-Arab objectives are attained, usurped Arab territories are liberated, the legitimate rights are regained, and an independent Palestinian state is established on the soil of Palestine.

Concluding, Dr Sayyagh greeted all strugglers wherever they may be, Arab and world liberation movements, and the friendly forces which support our causes.

Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah], then delivered a speech on behalf of the Palestinian revolution. He said: From this rostrum I convey greetings on behalf of the Palestinian revolution to the heroes of Egypt, to the Egypt's Revolution Organization, and to struggler Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir who are facing the Camp David regime's conspiracy.

He also denounced 'Arafat's rabid campaign against Arab Syria and against its pan-Arab role. He said this campaign is within 'Arafat's capitulatory policy and his attempts to liquidate the national and pan-Arab struggle.

Concluding his speech, Abu Musa greeted steadfast Syria, struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, the sons of our people who are carrying out an uprising against the Zionist enemy, and the sons of Egypt who are confronting the agent Camp David regime. [passage omitted]

Al-Ahmar Hails Organization

JN0708154488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, this morning received the delegation of Egypt's Arab Socialist Nasirite Party currently visiting Syria at the invitation of the national committee for the defense of Egypt's Revolution Organization and Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir.

Talks during the meeting dealt with Arab developments and the imperialist-Zionist schemes designed to liquidate the Arab-Zionist conflict in the enemy's interest. Talks also dealt with ways to confront both the enemy and the forces supporting it to foil the attempts to Arabize and generalize the Camp David accords. They also dealt with the role of the progressive pan-Arab and national Arab forces in concerting and consolidating Arab efforts in the face of the Zionist enemy.

Comrade al-Ahmar asserted that the Ba'th Party and its revolution in Syria support the Egyptian people and their militant forces to rid Egypt of the Camp David accords and restore Egypt's vanguard role in the march of Arab struggle for the sake of liberation and the building of a unified, socialist Arab community.

Shultz Visit Within Framework of 'U.S. Deception'

JN0208065588 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 2 Aug 88

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Shultz and the Return to Deception," the newspaper AL-BA'TH says: George Shultz' new visit to the Middle East represents one of the U.S. deceptive methods. It is highly unlikely that the U.S. first secretary [title as heard] was convinced during his past tours in the region that Israel is the side obstructing peace and that the U.S. support for it is the reason behind its continued disavowal of international will and world conscience.

But the U.S. secretary is seeking two objectives, the first of which is to force Arabs to give more concessions and the second is to continue deceiving the Arab individual and to mislead him into believing the U.S. moves to achieve peace are genuine.

AL-BA'TH continues: George Shultz, who is preparing for a new Middle East tour, did not leave the region in his previous tours without a view. But he is working hard so Israel will be the winner and the Arabs will be the losers. We are certain the U.S. first secretary, who failed to convince his Zionist allies of his odious plan, will not find any change in the Arab viewpoint. But he will find more intransigence form the Zionist leaders, even after the U.S. nuclear arsenal became in the service of and at the disposal of the Zionist army.

We are also certain Shultz' new tour is not to search for means of peace, but to discuss with the Zionist leaders alone the possible political and military trends for the two allies—the United States and Israel. Any visit of any U.S. official to the region aims only to discuss with the Zionist leaders all means to bolster Zionist capability. The visit to the Arab states falls within the framework of U.S. deception and the policy of appeasing those who took the United States as a friend and an ally, like the defection regime in Egypt.

Commentary Views Latest Tour by Richard Murphy

JN0308081688 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 3 Aug 88

[Palestine Broadcast: "Abu Salim's Talk"]

[Text] It is natural to see the Americans initiate moves to achieve the objective of circumventing our people's uprising and its growing effects and to rid themselves and the Zionists of the impasse in which the uprising placed them. Nay, they are initiating these moves to rid the Camp David regime and others whose policies harmonize with those pursued by that regime of the impasse in which the uprising placed them and also to rid themselves of the growing embarrassment caused to them by the uprising, not to mention its effects on them, which were seen by the Arab masses.

In their previous moves, the Americans attempted to achieve this objective. However, the effects of the uprising, which were manifested by the pan-Arab mobilization which was demonstrated at the Algiers summit, were stronger than their moves. Their moves have not only failed, nay, they further exposed the truth regarding their intentions and plans before the Arab and world

public and proved they are diametrically opposed to the Arab stand and to the indispensable requirements for bringing about a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Furthermore, they have proved that, through their alliance with the Zionist entity and also through the proposals they are submitting, they are actually taking part in the Zionist practices against our people in the occupied homeland. Besides, they have also shown that, through their moves and proposals, they have been instigating the Zionist entity to escalate its practices against our people in the occupied homeland and to show indifference to world public opinion and to the resolutions adopted by the international community.

The Americans found no party in the Arab arena to cover up for their moves and proposals except the Camp David regime, which has begun to represent for them a springboard for their moves in the Arab arena and a springboard for working to break the siege imposed on the Camp David accords with the aim of concluding Camp David-style accords through conferring new forms and names on these accords. Murphy has begun his moves.

The Americans have started or continued their moves in the region seeking to achieve the same objective. Murphy came to Egypt, to the Camp David regime, which, as we just said, has begun to constitute an American springboard for launching and continuing moves in the Arab arena.

However, the objectives of Murphy's tour were also in the Americans' mind when Vernon Walters, Shultz, John Whitehead, and other U.S. envoys and officials visited the region on previous occasions. This means these tours seek to bring about a direct American broaching of the effects of the uprising in the Arab arena.

Furthermore, these visits are prompted by a wagering on helpful Arab stands. But this time this American move materialized against the background of the American delusion that there are factors guaranteeing the success of their moves or guaranteeing Murphy's success in preparing the grounds for a tour by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz in the region to produce liquidatory and capitulatory solutions.

Murphy's tour materialized against the background of contacts held, proposals put forward, and stands taken by some Palestinian parties which, of course, enjoy the support of the Camp David regime and of other regimes. These contacts, proposals, and stands go in line with several moves and stances that have surfaced to stop the adherence to the positive aspects produced by the Algiers summit and also to prevent the developemnt of these positive aspects as required by pan-Arab sentiments.

The Americans and the Zionists are fooling themselves into believing they can exploit these stands and proposals to effect the liquidation of the Palestinian cause, as they believe the liquidation of this cause serves their interests and helps carry out their schemes. The Americans' Zionist ally is the principal base and springboard for carrying out the Americans' entire scheme in the entire Arab region.

That is what we want to say about this issue; namely, that the Americans, through their adherence to their schemes and ambitions, can never learn from past events. They can never recognize facts and realities which prove it is impossible to carry out their schemes. Nay, they persist in the pursuit of their line and method. They continue to wager on figures and stands while realizing that these figures and stands are diametrically opposed to their masses' interests.

Furthermore, they continue to wager on the possibility of carrying out their schemes through these figures and stands. However, they know quite well that such solutions, or such settlements, or such schemes which they are attempting to carry out or bring into existence are detrimental to the interests of the Arab masses. Besides, they also know quite well that there is no guarantee for implementing, maintaining, or entrenching such solutions, settlements, or schemes.

This is their nature and these are their methods; namely, demonstrating disrespect for people's will and their interests; displaying implacable hostility toward peoples, their interests, and will; and failing to deal with people on the basis of mutual respect or interest. Nay, they deal with peoples and seek to maintain relations with them in a manner that harms their interests and wills.

The American seek to achieve this depending on figures and stands diametrically opposed to the peoples' interests and free will. They seek to serve only their interests and consecrate their hegemony on these peoples' interests and deicsionmaking either directly or through certain figures that render these services for them.

Past developments in our region have confirmed to them that the Arab nationalist, revolutionary, and liberation forces for which Syria constitutes the pan-Arab base as well as the pan-Arab liberation struggle forces headed by Syria are capable of confronting all attempts that seek to liquidate or end the conflict at the expense of Arab rights and Arab interests and also at the expense of the requirements of pan-Arab security and destiny.

Past events have confirmed that these forces headed by Syria are the only parties that reflect the Arab masses' will and are the only parties that have the war and peace decision in the region. They have also proved it is impossible to bypass reality and ignore the capabilties of these forces.

Given their nature, their delusions, and their wagerings, the Americans seek to capitalize on certain developments, launch adventures, and say they will lose nothing big if they do not win. They contend they might manage to sow differences or confusion in the Arab arena and the Arab stance. They also say this prevents the effects of the uprising from creating and highlighting a unfied Arab stand against them. They also know these figures on which they have been wagering may fall or be taken to task. Their response would be: To hell with them, as they will have played their role.

The Americans have never respected any man who sought to harm his masses or placed himself at the Americans' disposal or facilitated their missions. They have never shown any eagerness to appreciate him. They have never shown regret when he is brought to task by his people or his masses. Hence, people who play such roles must understand these facts. They must understand it is impossible to liquidate the central cause of the Arab-Zionist conflict, the results of which determine the future and destiny of the pan-Arab plan as well as the destiny of the Arab nation, which is sought to be dwarfed.

The results of these stands of theirs, despite the fact they might cause some confusion in the Arab arena or hinder for some time the process of the pan-Arab masses' awakening, are bound to fail eventually. Nay, these parties will be the only ones that will be brought to task by the masses. They will meet the same fate met by all those who choose to harm the interests and will of their masses.

Radio on 'Arafat Stand on U.S.-Israeli 'Maneuver'
JN0308113888 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Palestine Broadcast: "Spotlight"]

[Text] Brothers on the path of revolution and liberation: It is the right of our masses which are making the greatest sacrifices through their brave heroic uprising to wonder about the true aim of the U.S. diplomatic moves, the continuation of the contacts between the 'Arafat leadership and the Zionists, and the role which is being played by the existing regime in Egypt to facilitate a diplomatic game whose aim, as is obvious from the behavior and stands of the various parties concerned, is to apply the part of the Camp David accords dealing with the West Bank and Gaza.

It is obvious that the game is currently concentrating on backstage efforts to form a negotiating team which would manage the negotiations with the enemy on separate tables away from the international conference formula which calls for UN supervision.

Any peace talks must take place within an international framework with the participation of all the Arab parties concerned, including Syria, Jordan, and the PLO through its natural existence and capacity as the representative of the Palestinian side, and not through representatives who wear all kinds of masks to enable the enemy to avoid full recognition of the Palestinian identity. The international peace conference also presumes the presence of the five major powers, including the USSR and PRC, which Washington is trying to avoid.

Here comes the question on the present circumstances of the U.S.-Israeli maneuver against the international conference formula as intimated by the reports on what is taking place between 'Arafat and the U.S. and Israeli sides through the Camp David regime in Egypt. The question carries its own answer; namely, 'Arafat's behavior.

The channels which have been chosen by 'Arafat facilitate the continuation of the U.S.-Israeli game along the Camp David line. Since 'Arafat likes this game, we have noticed very clearly he is pursuing a policy aimed at avoiding the Arab parties, especially Syria, which are supposed to be a natural partner in the international conference and which oppose Camp David.

However, 'Arafat does not have the decision of stopping the Palestinian struggle, and this is the most important fact that overrides all other plans. Furthermore, with his concessions and relinquishment of the cause, 'Arafat does not have Aladdin's magic lamp with which to regain the rights usurped by the enemy. The one who will regain these rights is definitely the one who is fighting and sacrificing for their sake.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Addresses New Province Tribal Assembly

LD0808232688 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, this afternoon took part in a tribal assembly of the people of Nurestan, which was held in the Delkosha Palace to express gratitude and appreciation for the creation of the Nurestan Province administrative unit. [passage omitted]

In their speeches the participants said they regarded the creation of Nurestan Province—a long-standing wish of the people of Nurestan—as an important and significant step in the (?process) of national reconciliation policy.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that Esteemed Najiballah delivered a speech on providing more services for the people of Nurestan. Esteemed Najibullah in part of his speech said: Nurestanis have always resisted all those who have attacked their land and have preserved their identity. [passage omitted]

Esteemed Najibullah added that the creation of the new province of Nurestan has its own political and economic significance. This is vivid evidence of the implementation of the policy of national reconciliation which satisfies the interests of all small and large nationalities and tribes of the country. The new province is a new victory for the policy of national reconciliation. [passage omitted]

Najibullah Receives Kabul Elders, Clergy

LD0808232988 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Esteemed Najibullah, the president of Afghanistan, this morning met with the ulema, clergy, elders, and representatives of the people of Kabul city and province in the Salam Khanah Hall of the presidency. The meeting was attended by more than 1,700 ulemas, clergy, elders, and representatives of Kabul city and province. First, a few verses were read from the holy Koran. Then Esteemed Najibullah spoke on ending the war and bloodshed, strengthening peace and security, and taking practical measures for the reliable defense of Kabul city and province.

Kabul is the pride of the people and is the national pride of the people of Afghanistan. The entire country, the world, and our friends and enemies are [words indistinct] how the situation will unfold in Kabul. Tranquillity and the peaceful life in the city are vital conditions for the entire country's stability.

Enumerating the gains of the policy of national reconciliation, Esteemed Najibullah added that specific measures have been taken to consolidate the defense and security of Kabul city. A special zone has been created in a 30-40 km radius of Kabul city. A large number of installations have come under self-defense protection. All members of the party have received general military training. A military detachment of PDPA members has been formed, as has a special guard. These moves have been based on the patriotic and freedom-loving spirit of the Afghan people and the serious determination of the people to defend the cause of peace. In this work we count on you noble [words indistinct] and clergy of Kabul city and province.

A BAKHTAR correspondent adds that Haj 'Abdul Qadir, chairman of the provincial council of the National Front of Kabul Province, and Mawlawi Khwaja Muhammad Hasan, the preacher of Khulafa-i Rashidin mosque of Khairkhan Mena, on behalf of the others spoke and condemned the savage actions of the extremists. They pledged that during direct contacts with the opposition they will ask them to stop firing rockets and committing sabotage. They expressed their readiness to convey the humanitarian intentions of the Republic of Afghanistan to their people for the implementation of the policy of national reconciliation and for ensuring peace and security. [passage omitted]

Pakistani Charge Summoned Over Airspace Violation

LD0808164088 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] A Foreign Affairs Ministry source reports that the charge d'affaires of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul was summoned this afternoon and the following points were made to him by the director of the First Political Department of the ministry:

According to reports by the Afghanistan security authorities, on 4 August at about 2145 one Pakistani aircraft entered Afghanistan's air space flying from north to south in the Dara region. Completing its reconnaissance and after accomplishing its mission, it left Afghan air space at 2215 in Sarkani District.

The Republic of Afghanistan Government strongly protests to the Pakistan Government about this aggression and demands that the relevant Pakistan authorities refrain from such irresponsible actions which aggravate the situation between the two countries. Otherwise, the responsibility for their dangerous consequences will rest with the Pakistani authorities.

66th Protest Note Handed to UNGOMAP

LD0808080888 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 7 BAKHTAR—The sixty-sixth notice of violation of Pakistan from the Geneva agreements, was submitted to the United Nations Good Offices Mission of Pakistan and Afghanistan (UNGOMAP) here today, by the liaison office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan.

The notice gave precise information pertaining to five cases of violations of Pakistan from the second article of the first document of the Geneva agreements and asks the UNGOMAP to investigate the instance of violations and inform the Republic of Afghanistan's concerned authorities and the representative of UN secretary general of its results.

Shevardnadze Meets Keshtmand, Ziray 7 Aug
LD0808161388 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0600 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul 7 Aug BAKHTAR—Mr Saleh Muhammad Ziray and Mr Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, members of the Politburo and secretaries of the Central Committee of the PDPA, today met Eduard Shevardnadze, member of Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee.

Soviet Envoy on Relations After Troop Withdrawal
BK0808004888 Hong Kong AFP in English 2237 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul, Aug 8 (AFP)—The Soviet Union has no plans to launch major troops offensives in Afghanistan, a spokesman for the Soviet Embassy in Kabul said Sunday.

Mikhail Konarovskiy, counsellor at the Soviet Embassy in Kabul, told foreign journalists here that the Soviet Union had no intention of launching a major troops offensive and instead was planning to help in the "reconstruction" of entire sectors of the Afghan economy till the year 2000.

The help would be given under an accord for economic, technical and commercial cooperation to be signed within the coming few months in Moscow by Prime Minister Muhammad Hasan Sharq, according to a statement made public Sunday in Kabul and in the Soviet Union.

The accord was agreed during the official visit to Afghanistan by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who left Sunday for Moscow, the spokesman said.

The Tupolev 154 that carried Mr Shevardnadze was escorted upon departure by six combat MI-24-Hind helicopters which poured out flares to confuse and deflect anti-aircraft missiles, such as the U.S.-made Stinger held by mujahidin resistance rebels, a Western eye-witness said. Kabul airport was heavily guarded by Soviet military during the foreign minister's visit.

Western analysts noted the length of Mr Shevardnadze's visit in Kabul, his fifth in 18 months, and his contacts with numerous civil and military officials at state level and lower levels. Mr Shevardnadze arrived in Kabul Thursday.

The planned cooperation accord between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan provides for an increase in the number of joint venture enterprises and reinforcement of "direct ties" between the Soviet republics and the Afghan provinces, as well as between the cities and the ministries of the two countries, Mr Konarovskiy said.

This plan was proposed in recent months especially to reinforce the links between Afghanistan's northern provinces close to the Soviet border, he said.

The accord would also provide for "larger scale" training of Afghan specialists in the Soviet Union, the Soviet diplomat said. A delegation from the Soviet Ministry for Professional Training was currently in Kabul, he said.

Mr Shevardnadze visited a garage specializing in car repairs and a bicycle factory on Sunday before his departure.

Commentary on Implementation of Geneva Accords
LD0708103088 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0457 GMT 7 Aug 88

["Commentary on Geneva Agreements"—BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 6, BAKHTAR—About three months have elapsed since the signing of Geneva agreement. During this period, the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union have seriously honoured the provisions of Geneva agreements as a significant international document which was signed between Afghanistan and Pakistan for the solution of one of the most complicated regional problems between the two countries and have shown necessary preparations for its strict implementation.

The return of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union from Afghanistan to their country is continuing as per the time-frame agreed in Geneva. The Soviet limited military contingent are due to leave Afghanistan till August 15, with the exception of five provinces from all provinces of Afghanistan. Right now, there is no Soviet soldier in 19 provinces of Afghanistan and the withdrawal of Soviet forces has been completed from Qandahar Province as well.

The Republic of Afghanistan has provided the necessary facilities to receive the Afghan refugees. The Afghan Government has announced demilitarized zones for refugees' safe return and has adopted practical measures for the creation of a coalition government. Eventually, as far as it is concerned to Afghanistan, the Afghan side has done its best for the realisation of the provisions of Geneva agreements.

However, Pakistan which is the other side of Geneva agreements and one of its signatories has not taken the least step for its implementation, but has made gross violations of the provisions of Geneva agreements. The

Pakistani authorities put weapons at a great scale at the disposal of the Afghan opposition groups and helping the latter in the transfer of arms from Pakistan and creating obstacles on the return of Afghan refugees to their country. These others are instances of violations by Pakistani authorities of the Geneva agreements which have been signed under the auspices of the UN secretary general.

The recent meeting between Eduard Shevardnadze, minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union and Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, foreign minister of Pakistan in Moscow, explicitly showed that the Pakistani side has violated from [as received] the implementation of Geneva Agreements.

The Soviet foreign minister pointed out that if the situation is continuing as such that one side fulfils its commitments and the other side violates it the process will lose its credibility. In this case, the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union are seeking how to counter with the increasing interventions into the internal affairs of Afghanistan and to adopt ways enabling the Geneva agreements to fulfil its role.

The Pakistani authorities as the basic side to Geneva agreements are obliged to observe the provisions of Geneva agreements. This is conforming not only to the interests of the people of Afghanistan but also to those of the people of Pakistan.

Soviet Troops Reportedly Speeding Up Withdrawal

BK0708083888 Hong Kong AFP in English 0751 GMT 7 Aug 88

[By Gilles Bertin]

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Aug 7 (AFP)—Soviet troops are speeding up their departure from Afghanistan in order to meet a deadline set under the Geneva peace accord of withdrawing 50,000 soldiers by August 15, U.N. sources said here Sunday [7 August].

The Soviet forces have stepped up the pace of their withdrawal by air and by land, said the sources, who added that the United Nations had observers posted at airports and on the main routes leading to the Soviet Union.

Important Soviet military bases at Shindand in northwest Afghanistan and at Qandahar in the south are being evacuated, said the sources.

Ilyushin airplanes which can carry more than 250 people are shuttling back and forth between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, said the sources.

Between 28,000 and 30,000 soldiers have already been pulled out of Afghanistan, according to Western intelligence estimates.

Moscow, which admitted to having some 100,000 troops in Afghanistan when the Geneva agreement was signed by Islamabad and Kabul on April 14, pledged to withdraw half of them by August 15, and all of them by February 15, 1989.

The United States maintains that the Soviet Union had 115,000 soldiers in Afghanistan when the agreement was signed—Washington and Moscow are guarantors of the pact.

Diplomatic sources said Soviet leaders were only counting troops of the 40th Army, which makes up almost the entire Soviet presence in Afghanistan.

The sources said they were "skeptical" that the Soviets would pull out half their troops by August 15, but added that more than 40,000 soldiers would probably be withdrawn by the date.

RED STAF., the Soviet Army's daily, said recently that paratroor and mechanized infantry units were withdrawn Friday from Konduz, near the Soviet border in the north, and from Qandahar.

The Geneva accords would be respected, the commander of the Soviet forces in Afghanistan, General Boris Gromov, told the Soviet newspaper PRAVDA in Kabul recently.

Gen. Gromov said two Soviet columns from Qandahar, Afghanistan's second largest city, would arrive in the Soviet Union Thursday. He said the first column would go through Herat, in northeastern Afghanistan, and the second through Kabul and then through the Salang tunnel.

The evacuation of Qandahar has surprised some observers, as the city is threatened by important rebel groups who are only a few kilometers from the airport, the stronghold of Soviet troops and forces of the Kabul government. [passage omitted]

Kabul Units Depart

LD0808175588 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Excerpt] In accordance with the documents of the Geneva accords and in continuation of the return of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union from the Republic of Afghanistan, the return of units from Kabul began today.

A large group of foreign journalists witnessed the return of a unit during ceremonies held in Khairkhana area of Kabul. [passage omitted]

Qandahar Convoys Avoid Rebels

BK0908003788 Hong Kong AFP in English 0006 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Quetta, Pakistan, Aug 8 (AFP)—Soviet troops withdrawing from the Afghan city of Qandahar have given Moslem guerrillas a wide berth since a rebel attack last week that left 18 Red Army soldiers dead, rebel sources here said Monday.

The soldiers were killed August 1 in a mujahidin attack on a big convoy leaving Qandahar in southern Afghanistan for Herat in the northeast, they said.

The rebels also destroyed six armoured vehicles in the convoy, which included more than 100 tanks, armoured vehicles and trucks, forcing it to return to Qandahar, the rebel sources said here in the Baluchistan provincial capital, 200 kilometres southeast of Qandahar.

For two days afterwards, Soviet and Afghan government planes bombed rebel positions along the road to Herat, they said.

On Thursday, the Soviet convoy departed from Qandahar again, reaching Herat without incident and proceeding on to the Soviet Union.

Soviet convoys have taken other routes to avoid confronting the rebels, who regularly cut off the Qandahar-Herat road, the sources said. Soviet troops have also been taken out by aircraft, they added.

Several military posts have been turned over to Afghan militia and elite troops trained in the Soviet Union, they said.

The rebels also launched a series of attacks around Qandahar last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, killing more than 50 Afghan Government soldiers, capturing five and destroying 15 tanks, the pro-mujahidin AFGHAN PRESS AGENCY said.

Fighting in the Qandahar area has been intense since the beginning of the month, a rebel source said.

The Soviets must withdraw half their 115,000 troops in Afghanistan by August 15 under a United Nations-brokered agreement signed in Geneva in April. About 10,000 Soviet troops must leave Qandahar by then to comply with the accord. The rest of the troops are to be withdrawn by February 15.

Afghan Government forces and Soviet parachutists have continued a counter-attack around Kabul to try to reduce pressure on the city, particularly rocket fire that killed nearly 100 people last month, sources said.

Southeast of the capital, 15 military posts captured by rebels last month have been retaken by government troops, said the Afghan Information and Documentation Center in Pakistan, which is close to the resistance.

Two important Soviet posts in Shamanzy and Kharooty [placenames as received], west of Kabul, have been retaken and fortified by Soviet and Afghan troops, sources said.

Fighting is continuing close to Paghman, also west of Kabul, they said.

More than 300 tanks, armoured vehicles, trucks and planes have been used by Afghan Government forces during three days of counter-attacks to the south and southeast of Kabul, the sources said.

More than 100 soldiers have been killed or wounded, 30 of them Soviet troops, rebel sources said.

4 Missiles, Other Weapons Bought From Opposition

LD0808201488 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] In accordance with Revolutionary Council Presidium Decree No 204, issued on 5 October 1987, concerning the purchase of weapons from armed opposition groups, four surface-to-surface (?Strella II) missiles and a number of other weapons were recently purchased in Dehdadi Subdistrict, Balkh Province.

According to the BAKHTAR military correspondent, the missiles and weapons were brought into Afghanistan from across the border by extremist leaders in order to shoot down civilian airliners and create fear among the peace-loving people. The weapons were purchased at a specified price through a contact established by the group transporting them with the security forces. The report adds that the price of the missiles and weapons was paid to the opposition in accordance with the decree.

Clashes Between Government, Mujahidin Noted

52 Missiles Seized at Qandahar

LD0708191488 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] BIA's military section reports that 52 surface-to-air missiles, situated on launching pads aimed at residential areas in Qandahar city, were detected and neutralized yesterday. The report adds that in the course of the operation, which was carried out by the security forces with comprehensive help from the local people in Daman District, a number of warmongering elements were also crushed.

'Extremist' Units 'Crushed'

LD0708223788 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Summary] The country's security forces recently discovered and seized a quantity of weapons and ammunition belonging to the criminal extremists in the Behsud area of Jalalabad city. The BIA military section reports that 31 kg of [words indistinct] type explosive substances, six antivehicle mines, and a quantity of antitank ammunition, which had been placed in the Behsud area and were to be transferred to Jalalabad city, were discovered by the security forces with the direct help of the local people, and were seized.

In other operations today a number of armed extremists, along with their ringleaders, Sher Agha and Malang, were crushed and their weapons and ammunition seized. The BIA military section said in the course of this operation 72 ground-to-ground missiles, 136 antivehicle and antipersonnel mines, 180 rocket launchers, and several DShK machine guns and thousands of rounds of ammunition were seized. Also, 42 guns and 16 trenches of the extremists were destroyed. Two extremist armed men were also captured along with their weapons.

In operations by the country's armed forces in Nangarhar Province today a number of extremist elements were crushed in Achin District. Their weapons and ammunition were seized by the country's armed forces. Counterrevolutionary extremist elements were crushed. In the course of these operations carried out on 6 August by the security forces in Nangarhar Province's (Shinwar) District, extremist elements were crushed in the district's environs. One [words indistinct], one unit for launching missiles, and one English machine gun along with launching (?equipment) and a rocket launcher were seized by the armed forces.

An armed extremist group that sought to disrupt the peaceful life of Sarkani District, Konarha Province, today was dealt with by the Armed Forces. The BIA military section reports from Konarha Province that as a result of this combat operation, which was carried out with the direct cooperation of the residents of the locality, 45 of these criminals were killed and another 35 severely wounded. Also, as a result of the operation, many weapons and ammunition, including rocket missiles unit, mortars, and light weapons, were destroyed.

Operations Against Rebels

LD0708025188 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] The BIA military section reports that as a result of a recent combat operations in Chaprahar District, Nangarhar Province, with the cooperation of local people, five criminals, the enemies of peace and calm, were crushed. A rocket launcher, four machine guns, and a radio were seized from them.

According to another report, two extremist groups have been crushed as a result of the armed forces strikes in Pachir-Agam Subdistrict. As a result of this operation, which was carried out with the direct cooperation of the local people, the extremist elements suffered heavy losses, and engineer Mahmud of the Khalis extremist band and two foreign advisers were seriously wounded. During this operation a ground-to-ground rocket launcher and a weapons cache were destroyed.

A report from Konarha Province says that a number of warmongering elements who tried to disrupt the peaceful life of our people in Asmar and Marah Warah were crushed yesterday as a result of the armed forces strikes. Eight extremists were killed and 19 others were wounded. Dozens of enemy weapons were destroyed.

During a security forces' clearing operation, a 10-man group of the extremists who were disrupting the peaceful life of our compatriots in Alingar District, Laghman Province, has been crushed. According to the BIA military section, group leader Rahim was crushed and the group's weapons were totally destroyed.

60 Missiles Seized

LD0808165188 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] The BIA military section reports that 60 surface-to-surface missiles which had been positioned to be launched on residential areas in Qandahar Province were discovered and seized yesterday. The report adds that as a result of this operation, which was carried out with all-around and direct cooperation of the local people in the environs of Qandahar city, a number of extremists were crushed and several of their hideouts destroyed.

Rebels Using Antitank Missiles

BK0708164688 Hong Kong AFP in English 1622 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 7 (AFP)—Afghan rebels are using sophisticated Milan anti-tank missiles which they received in April in fighting around Kabul, highly reliable sources said Sunday.

Several groups of moderate Moslem rebels, including the Jamiyat-e Eslami, the Hezb-e Eslami Khalis faction, and the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan have dozens of the missiles around Kabul, they said,

Deployment of the missiles close to the capital city will probably dissuade the Afghan Government Military Command from launching operations involving armoured vehicles and tanks, experts said.

Western travelers returning from Kabul reported the presence of the anti-tank missiles several kilometers (miles) from the capital.

Rebels under commander Amin Wardak (Hezb-e Eslami Khalis) used Milans in the second week of July, to attack armoured vehicles about 12 kilometers (seven miles) northwest of Kabul, the sources said.

The French-German Milan, considered by experts to be highly effective, is a guided missile capable of destroying a tank from more than two kilometers (1.2 miles) and is in use in 36 countries.

Mujahidin operating some 20 kilometers (12.4 miles) around the Afghan capital, have fired 120 mm rockets on Kabul for several weeks.

Soviet and Afghan Government troops have launched a counter-offensive to ease pressure from mujahidin rocket attacks on Kabul. Soviet troops have launched attacks mainly in Paghman region north of Kabul and to the west and east of the capital.

Rebels used Milan rockets in late April to destroy several tanks in Kashkunar to the south of Konarha Province in eastern Afghanistan.

The first shipment of 140 Milans reaching the rebels was shipped through an Arab country, reliable sources said.

Other missile deliveries have been made but many Milans were destroyed in an explosion in April at Ojiri Munitions Depot north of Rawalpindi, Pakistan, sending a shower of shells onto Islamabad a few kilometers (miles) away, the sources said.

Islamabad Notes Rebel Attacks

BK0808025088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] In Afghanistan the mujahidin have again launched rocket attacks on installations of the Najibullah regime in Kabul and Jalalabad. Although details of the attacks have not yet been received, Kabul radio has confirmed them.

According to a report, the mujahidin carried out a successful operation against the Kabul government troops in Zabol Province, inflicting heavy loss of life. At least 10 soldiers were captured in the operation and several tanks and military vehicles destroyed. Another report says that more than 100 government soldiers joined the mujahidin in Baghran-(Walswale) in Kabul Province.

The mujahidin shot down a fighter aircraft of the Kabul regime in the Tupchi area of Ghazni Province as it was trying to bomb mujahidin targets in the region. Another fighter aircraft was also downed at (Khadian) area in Nangarhar Province.

Mujahidin Kill 45 Soldiers

BK0908083188 Hong Kong AFP in English 0819 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 9 (AFP)—At least 45 Afghan soldiers were killed when Afghan resistance guerrillas shot down a military aircraft in Afghanistan's eastern Paktia Province last week, Western diplomats said here Tuesday.

The plane was shot down on Thursday [4 August] over the city of Khowst, which has been besieged by Afghan resistance guerrillas for the past few months, they said.

The official media of the Soviet-backed Kabul regime have yet to confirm the downing of the aircraft, the diplomats said.

Afghan resistance sources in the Pakistani city of Peshawar have recently claimed to have shot down several Afghan planes. They said the plane shot down Thursday in Paktia Province was hit by a U.S.-made Stinger anti-aircraft missile fired by rebel Commander Jalaluddin Haqqani.

Rival 'Extremist' Groups Clash in Provinces

LD0708093388 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul, August 6, BAKHTAR—Eleven extremists were killed and twelve others wounded as a result of the armed clashes occurred recently between the opposition rival groups in the suburbs of Qeysar from that province.

Also, during a clash which took place between the opposition armed groups in the localities of Bagram District in Parvan Province two extremists were killed and three others severely wounded.

Likewise, during a severe clash which took place between the Gulbuddin group and another extremist armed group in the Ozbin [name as received] area of Sarowbi District in Kabul Province Malik Barakat Shah, a ringleader of the Gulbuddin band and some members of the rival groups were killed.

As a result of the armed clashes which still continue heavy material losses have been inflicted to the residents of the area.

India

Gandhi Asks LTTE To Stop Fighting, Surrender

BK0608084988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Excerpt] The prime minister has called upon the LTTE to stop fighting and give up arms and surrender before the PKF. Addressing public meetings at Mannargudi in

Tamil Nadu, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said India will do everything possible by impressing upon the Sri Lankan Government about their rehabilitation and the release of remaining detenues [detainees]. He advised the LTTE to demonstrate sincerity and come to the negotiating table to sort out their problems. [passage omitted]

154 LTTE Men Arrested in Tamil Nadu 8 Aug

BK0808155888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] In Tamil Nadu, 154 LTTE men have been taken into custody today by the police in the state. A total of 67 Sri Lankan Tamil militants from Madras, 78 from Madurai, and the rest from other parts of the state have been rounded up.

This is the first time that police have swooped upon the Sri Lankan Tamil militants after the signing of the Indo-Sri Lankan Agreement in July last.

Pakistan Reportedly Training Sikh 'Terrorists'

BK0908085988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] The minister of state for home, Mr P. Chidambaram, informed the Rajya Sabha today that a number of centers have been set up by Pakistan to motivate and train Khalistan protagonists for terrorist activities in India. In a written answer, the minister said this has also been supported by the confession made by some of the terrorists.

He said Pakistan's involvement in training Sikh extremists and setting up training centers for the purpose has been brought to the notice of that country on many occasions. Mr Chidambaram said the Government of India is pursuing the matter with the Government of Pakistan at various levels.

Police Official on Strategy To Fight Terrorism

BK0808095688 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] The Punjab police has adopted a new strategy to tackle terrorism in the state. Disclosing this at a news conference in Amritsar today, the director general of state police, M K.P.S. Gill, said under this only concerned harborers and sympathizers of terrorists are being subjected to intensive interrogation. During the last 1 month, Punjab police has captured 55 lethal weapons including 24 AK-47 rifles, 2 rocket launchers and 4 rockets. He announced that a 100 crore rupees housing plan has been initiated to provide family accommodations for state police personnel.

Meanwhile, the police arrested 10 terrorists from Mahalpur area of Hoshiarpur District during the raid last night. A large quantity of arms and ammunition have been recovered from them.

Reportage on Continuing Violence in Punjab State

'Terrorists' Kill 5

BK0808032088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] In Punjab, terrorists shot dead five persons, including three of a family, in two separate incidents last night. In Amritsar District, five terrorists entered the house of a widow and shot her and two of her sons in village Thatta. In Ludhiana District, the terrorists attacked the house of a farmer in village Malla. He and his guest were killed and another person was seriously injured.

There was a bomb explosion near the Punjab Agricultural University in Ludhiana. Four persons were injured. Meanwhile, security forces have arrested five terrorists near Sukhiwala rail bridge in Amritsar. Three pistols, including a foreign-made one, have been recovered from them.

3 'Terrorists' Killed 8 Aug

BK0908084888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] In Punjab, three terrorists were killed in two separate incidents last night. According to the director general of police, Mr K.P.S. Gill, a hardcore terrorist Satnam Singh alias Satta was killed in an encounter with the police near Basti Pathana in Patiala District. Satta was involved in a number of terrorist activities and was carrying an award of 25,000 rupees.

In another incident two terrorists were killed in an encounter with the police in Nur Mahal area of Jullundhur District.

Students Strike in Calcutta; Bombing Injures 1

BK0808160388 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] In West Bengal, work in educational institutions was disrupted today following students' strike. The strike call was given by the Chhatra Parishad [Students Council], student wing of the Congress-I, in protest against police firing on youth Congress-I demonstrators in Cooch Behar last week. The demonstrators also put up road blockades.

In Calcutta, one girl was injured seriously in bomb blast in the university campus this morning. A bus and a tram were also set on fire by some miscreants. Police arrested 12 Chhatra Parishad supporters for indulging in violence.

Janavadi Party Merges With Congress-I

BK0508145588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Aug 88

[Text] The Janavadi Party has decided to merge with the Congress-I. This was announced by its founder president, Mr Chandrajit Yadav, at a news conference in New Delhi this afternoon. He said five state units of Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala have also been directed to merge.

Mr Yadav said the Congress-I is the largest mass-based party in the country and is determined to fight the fundamentalist and communal forces in the country.

Iran

Reportage, Comment on Cease-Fire Announcement

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Message

LD0908113288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Aug 88

['Text' of message issued to the "fighters of Islam" by Hashemi-Rafsanjani, acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O dear and epic-making fighters. Thanks to your steadfastness and to results achieved by the sacred blood of the martyrs and the tolerance and patience of the wounded, disabled, POW's, and their esteemed families, and thanks to the people's unstinting resistance under the leadership of the imam of the ummah, all the conspiracies and mischievous deeds have been crushed and the evil of Islam's enemies have backfired on them.

You have created epics that will be recorded in the most glorious sections of Islam's proud history with the most accurate words. The glorious scenes of your victories in recent days have turned the sweet dream of Islam's enemies into a terrible nightmare and aborted their aggressive moves, which had been supported by global arrogance using feeble domestic mercenaries in orde to undermine the proud gains of your lengthy struggle. The enemy has been forced to retreat in both the military and political arenas.

After a series of tricks, the enemy was eventually forced to give up its disgraceful excuses, and the UN secretary general announced the date for a cease-fire.

In view of the present circumstances, and inspired by the blessed opinion of the great leader, the Islamic Republic of Iran has decided to create a lasting and comprehensive peace in the region and will continue on this path. What guarantees and secures an everlasting peace is the power, readiness, and alertness of the Armed Forces and, thanks be to God, you fully possess these characteristics. We are facing enemies whose claims, promises, and agreements cannot be trusted, the same enemies who, under the pretext of maintaining their country's security, started this intense aggression with the sinister objective of destroying the revolution.

These are the same enemies who, in the course of the war, under the slogan of seeking peace, committed new crimes daily and disregarded international, Islamic, and humane regulations with its attacks on the population and civilian centers, its threats to security in the air, on land and sea routes. They used banned chemical weapons against their own people and, after Iran's acceptance of the UN resolution, exposed their own warmongering nature to the entire world in a foolish manner. One must continue to be vigilant in the face of such an enemy. We must remain alert and prepared, as they might resort to any aggression and crime during the few days left before the cease-fire date, and even afterwards.

For the sake of safeguarding the interests of the both countries' people, as we are on the threshold of peace, and by remaining committed to the agreement and the decsion to establish peace, the Islamic Republic will not take any military initiative, but just as always, is prepared to give an appropriate response to the enemy's mischievous deeds.

Beginning today, the Armed Forces should not initiate any kind of miiitary or armed operation. They are dutybound, however, to remain prepared and alert, and to respond appropriately to any kind of enemy mischief whether in the air, on the sea, or on land.

Today, Islamic Iran is proud before God to perform its holy duty to defend justice, and the Iraqi Ba'thists should answer God and the people as to why they started the fire of war and what they gained from it.

REUTER Cited on 20 Aug Date

LD0808205988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] According to a REUTER dispatch from New York, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar announced Monday that a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq will take place at 0300 GMT, 0630 Tehran time, on 20 August which corresponds to 29 Mordad.

Perez de Cuellar Announcement

NC0908051088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar announced last night that the cease-fire will become effective beginning at 0630 on 20 August. He added that he will ask Iran and Iraq to send their representatives to Geneva on 25 August so that the direct talks can begin under his supervision.

The UN secretary general also said that the Governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Iraq have agreed to the establishment of UN observer force at the date and time of the cease-fire.

Meetings on Cease-Fire Detailed

NC0908060588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Telephone report from unidentified correspondent in London—recorded]

[Text] Late last night UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar announced the [words indistinct] hour and date on which the cease-fire will be officially established between Iran and Iraq. In his statement, Perez de Cuellar used the rights granted to him by the Security Council to call on Iran and Iraq to cease all military operations on the ground, sea, and air at 0630 Tehran time [0300 GMT] on 20 August.

Before the announcement of the cease-fire date, the Security Council held a long meeting behind closed doors and studied the secretary general's report on the latest developments. In his report, the secretary general called for the establishment of a 350-man unit to supervise the cease-fire and at the same time proposed that plans be set up to establish a support unit, an air unit, and possibly a Navy unit for a 6-month period.

The secretary general and the Security Council simultaneously announced the news on the cease-fire and strongly called on the two sides to display the utmost self-restraint in order to prevent conflicts on ground, at sea, and in air during the next 12 days until the cease-fire is put into effect. The secretary general also announced that talks for a solution to the remaining issues and for implementing the articles of Security Council Resolution No 598 will begin in Geneva under his supervision 5 days after the cease-fire.

With the announcement of the cease-fire date, oil prices rose in the Western markets and the insurance rate for ships in the Persian Gulf dropped by half. Diplomatic sources at the United Nations believe that despite the announcement of the cease-fire, one should not yet consider the 8-year Iran-Iraq war as ended, because efforts to implement the contents of Resolution No 598, which will involve a long diplomatic process, will not be any less significant than a military battle.

Experts on Iran and Iraq also believe that because the Islamic Republic of Iran was a victim of Iraq's military aggression 8 years ago, it should gain (?clearer) international guarantees insuring that Iraq's aggression is not repeated, as Baghdad's military and expansionist objectives and its usual breaches of promise have been such that the possibility of a decisive end to Baghdad's aggressive intentions does not yet exist.

This is the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in London.

Velayati Leaves for Home

NC0908050788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Following the withdrawal of the Iraqi regime from its previously announced positions on placing preconditions on the implementation of Security Council Resolution No 598—which came after the all-embracing presence of the various strata of people on the scene to defend the Islamic homeland and after the uninterrupted efforts by the Islamic Republic's political delegation in New York—the UN Security Council issued a statement last night in which it confirmed the statements by the UN secretary general setting Saturday, 20 August, as the day on which the cease-fire will commence in Iraq's war with Iran.

Following this statement, our foreign minister, Mr Velayati, left New York for Tehran after nearly 2 weeks there. We have a report on this:

[Begin recording of telephone report by unidentified correspondent in London] Following the announcement by the UN secretary general that 0630 on 20 August will be the official time at which the cease-fire will commence between Iran and Iraq, our foreign minister, Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati left the United Nations for Tehran at the end of a long 2-week trip. Before leaving New York, Dr Velayati held his last meeting with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and discussed the final issues pertaining to the implementation of the resolution after the announcement of the cease-fire.

Our foreign minister held a news conference before leaving New York and answered the many questions by correspondents on the diplomatic efforts at the United Nations to implement Resolution No 598 and the UN secretary general's plan for implementation.

Dr Velayati is returning home after 11 official meetings and an unkown number of unofficial and unannounced meetings with the UN secretary general. According to many observers at the United Nations, Iran's logical and judicious diplomacy during the past 2 weeks at the United Natioons not only led to the materialization of the Islamic Republic's views on the implementation of Resolution No 598 and the UN secretary general's plan for implementation, but it also completely took the diplomatic initiative away from the Iraqi delegation.

This is the Voice of the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in London. [end recording]

Velayati News Conference

LD0908065488 Tehran IRNA in English 0548 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] United Nations, New York, Aug. 9, IRNA—Iran's Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati said here Monday evening that the Islamic Republic of Iran will refrain from launching any military action on land, in air and at sea as of Tuesday.

He was speaking to reporters after Javier Perez de Cuellar's declaration that a cease-fire in the Iraq-Iran war would take effect at 0300 GMT on August 20.

Velayati engaged in two weeks of intensive talks with Perez de Cuellar on implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 598 on Iraq-Iran war, said that the decision reached showed sincerity of the Islamic Republic of Iran in establishment of peace. The move is the outcome of Iran's close cooperation with Perez de Cuellar, he told reporters.

He expressed the hope that this "historic step" will pave the way for immediate execution of articles of the UN Security Council Resolution 598.

On "certain issues" raised by the Iraqi officials in the course of their negotiations at the UN, Velayati said the existing international agreements and particularly the 1975 Algiers accord between Iraq and Iran, embody all these issues (raised by Baghdad).

If Iraqi officials insist on bringing up such issues, he said, the only framework for discussing them is the Article 4 of the Resolution 598 and the implementation plan of Perez de Cuellar.

On the recent UN report on Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons Velayati said immediately after its release Iraq had again resorted to the use of these lethal weapons against Iranians (in Oshnoviyeh) injuring more than 2,000 civilians.

Faced with Baghdad's persistance on deploying chemical warfare, Velayati stressed that the Security Council should take immediate and effective measures against this Iraqi practice and severly condemn it.

Reiterating that Iran is ready to halt any military action he emphasised however that Iran will not hesitate to retaliate any Iraqi military operations.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran is after a lasting peace and in the opinion of Iran the Algiers accord provides a good basis for solving the disputes," he told reporters.

Asked about possibility of a trip to Baghdad, he said this falls within the responsibility of the secretary general. "I am ready to travel to Baghdad if Perez de Cuellar calls for such a move," he told reporters.

On the fate of Western hostages in Lebanon, he said it has got nothing to do whatsoever with the Islamic Republic of Iran and that only for humanitarian reasons Iran is would be [as received] willing to help solve the issue. He stressed that the issues of Lebanon were not at all related to the ongoing negotiations at UN headquarters.

UN's Li Luye Comments

LD0908122188 Tehran IRNA in English 1206 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] United Nations, New York, Aug. 9, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in his meetings with the U.N. chief Javier Perez de Cuellar and president of the Security Council Li Luye Monday reiterated Iran's readiness to cooperate with the U.N. in implementing of the Resolution 598.

In his meeting with Perez de Cuellar the two sides exchanged views on the composition, number and nationality of the forces to monitor a ceasefire between Iran and Iraq which is to go into effect at 0300 GMT Aug. 20.

The U.N. chief said Monday that Iran and Iraq have both agreed on the time as well as the despatch of U.N. peace-keeping forces to monitor the ceasefire. Perez de Cuellar also called on Iran and Iraq to send their representatives for peace negotiations in Geneva to start on 25 August.

Meanwhile, Perez de Cuellar in his speech at the Security Council yesterday referred to the relative calm in the war fronts and urged both sides to seriously refrain from any hostile move on the ground, in the sea and on the air until the ceasefire is put into force. He also expressed hope that Iranian and Iraqi envoys would continue their cooperation with him in the course of peace talks.

The president of the Security Council also welcomed and supported the U.N. chief's plans and said the council will back Perez de Cuellar's request for full restraint by the warring parties until the ceasefire is officially announced.

Speaking after Perez de Cuellar's remarks made at the council session yesterday, Li stressed that the Council is determined to fully implement the Resolution 598.

Velayati in his meetings thanked Perez de Cuellar and Li for their efforts for the implementation of the U.N. peace plan.

In another development the Indian envoy at the United Nations met with Velayati and submitted a message from his Indian counterpart Narasimha Rao on convening of a joint Tehran-New Delhi economic commission in Tehran in the coming days.

Tehran TV Interviews Velayati

NC0908091088 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Telephone interview by unidentified correspondent with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in New York on 8 August—live or recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mr Velayati, thank you for granting us this interview. While telling our viewers and listeners about the latest news, please give us your opinion of what the future developments and the political process concerning the war will be, in view of the fact that the Iraqi regime has finally accepted a cease-fire before direct talks.

[Velayati] In the name of God, the Almighty, the compassionate. Greetings to the imam of the ummah and to the powerful fighters of Islam. I must inform the great Iranian ummah that ever since our delegation's arrival in New York the position of the Islamic Republic was completely clear; that is, Iran accepted Resolution No 598 and the secretary general's plan without any preconditions or additional conditions.

The Iraqi delegation arrived 24 hours we did, and the Iraqi foreign minister announced in a news conference that direct talks should be held between the two sides before the cease-fire. In view of the fact that this was a precondition which Iraq wanted to impose on us and on the United Nations, the day after the Iraqi foreign minister's interview I was interviewed and once again emphasized that we cannot accept in any way direct talks before the cease-fire.

Some 10 days after the commencement of this relatively strong political-propaganda conflict between us and Iraq, the Iraqis finally stopped their insistence because international pressure, as well as the principled position of the Islamic Republic, had made Iraq an object of scorn. Iraq had no other alternative but to accept the logical proposal by the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was endorsed by the vast majority of the nations of the world and by all the Security Council members and the UN secretary general.

Finally, they announced that they had given up their precondition. During a meeting we had with the secretary general a few hours after the announcement of Iraq's view [words indistinct], we waited in order to recieve Iraq's view officially through the secretary general. After the secretary general informed us that Iraq had officially announced it had given up its former position and accepted the position announced by the Islamic Republic, we gave our written and recorded answer to the secretary general in less than 4 hours, to be recorded as a document at the United Nations.

Immediately after this development, I held a news conference and said that what is currently being done by the Islamic Republic of Iran is nothing more than carrying out the policy it had adopted from the very beginning. This position was that a cease-fire should be established without any preconditions, within the framework of Resolution No 598 and the secretary general's plan for implementation, and under the secretary general's supervision; that we are prepared to participate in direct talks after the cease-fire, in whatever manner the secretary general deems suitable; and that the level of the meeting and of the talks, as well as its date, will be determined by the secretary general as far as Iran is concerned in order to facilitate his mission.

After this news conference, the secretary general told correspondents that the two sides had accepted a cease-fire to be followed by talks. Today, Monday, at about 1600 New York time, the Security Council will officially meet and the secretary general will submit his report to the council and announce the cease-fire date for the Iran-Iraq borders.

[Correspondent] Do you think that Saddam may commit further mischief before the establishment of a cease-fire? What do you advise?

[Velayati] In view of our experience as far as Iraq's breaches of promise are concerned, this is not improbable. Therefore, my humble advice to the powerful fighters of Islam is that they should strongly maintain their positions and be ready and alert so that the other side will not try to exploit the opportunity that has arisen and commit acts similar to those which we have witnessed during the recent days.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much, Mr Velayati.

Velayati on 'Readiness'

LD0808175288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Dr Velayati today described the current trend in implementing Resolution No 598 in the United Nations and said: Considering the past record of the Iraqi regime, the possibility of any sort of action on the part of this regime exists.

Therefore, the fighters of Islam must maintain complete awareness and readiness to defend the positions of Islam, to remove any possibility of action by this regime. He stressed that since the start of negotiations with the secretary general, the Islamic Republic of Iran has maintained its fundamental positions.

Musavi Urges 'Alertness'

LD0908102488 Tehran IRNA in English 1014 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 9, IRNA—Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi commenting on Monday night's cease-fire declaration on the Iraq-Iran war said here Tuesday that the Iranian nation should retain its alertness, revolutionary spirit and remain present in political scene of the country.

Interviewed after inaugurating the largest publishing and printing organisation of the country (affiliated to the Ministry of Islamic Guidance), he urged the people to continue to maintain their alertness because he said enemy's nature and its plots are known to the Iranian people. Therefore, he added, while maintaining their alertness the nation should protect its revolutionary values and goals.

More on the cease-fire to go into effect at 0300 GMT August 20, Premier Musavi said the Iranian people and government believe in certain principles and will never forgo them. The braveries they have shown so far, he said, are due to holding on to these principles.

'Repeated' Attacks Expected

LD0808120188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] The possibility of a repeated attack by Iraq on the Iranian territory is the title of our next news reports. According to a report by the London correspondent of the Central News Unit, although the Iraqi regime has apparently announced its readiness to accept Resolution No 598, the possibility of a repeated Iraqi attack from the western and southern fronts still exists. According to the same report, in the opinion of informed political sources, accepting peace has never been part of Saddam's strategy and all Iraqi military and economic plans are geared toward continuing the war.

The Central News Unit's correspondent states that the chemical bombardment of Sar Dasht and Oshnoviyeh, which injured nearly 2,000 people, may be viewed within the framework of this strategy. According to this report in the opinion of press sources in London, Saddam has enjoyed complete assurance about the two superpowers' support in pursuing the war against Iran. This assurance has led him to become overconfident.

However, Iraqi military equipment, which is normally made up of Russian weaponry, is not compatible with the military equipment of Kuwait and the Hijaz. This has drawn the attention of political observers more than ever. Some political observers believe that although the Soviet Union was not able to reach warm waters through Afghanistan, it may gain a strong foothold in the Persian Gulf through Iraq.

Reportage on Conference on 'Aggression, Defense'

Khamene'i's Opening Address

LD0808100788 Tehran IRNA in English 0947 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 8, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i Monday called on writers, intellectuals, thinkers, scientists and men of conscience all over the world to find means and ways to stop the plague of aggression and oppression against defenceless and peace-loving countries as it happened against Iran.

Inaugurating a 3-day international conference on "Aggression and Defence" at the Azadi Grand Hotel in Tehran, the president referred to the failure of the international community to prevent aggression and violation of international laws and invited the nearly 200 participants to find methods to form an international body which would defend the rights of the aggressed and oppressed nations and impose justice.

Pointing to the 8-year Iraqi imposed war on Iran he referred to the fact that the Security Council in its first two resolutions took a biased stance in favaor of Iraq which he said was the initiator of the conflict.

"It is the duty of humanists, thinkers, writers, intellectuals to fill the vacuum" which he said encourage injustice and aggression.

About 200 scholars, thinkers, lawyers, academics from Iran and 20 other countries including Egypt, India, Pakistan, West Germany, the United States, Japan, China, Zaire, etc. are taking part in the conference which is sponsored by Iran's universities and research institutes.

In his speech President Khamene'i gave a brief background on the 8-year imposed war and singled out several cases where Iraq blatantly violated international laws and treaties, in the face of which he regretted, the world community kept silent. Among other things he referred to Iraq's constant use of chemical weapons, the bombing of civilian areas, shooting down of passenger planes, and tearing down of the Algiers accord.

Referring to the Security Council Resolution 598 and Iran's acceptance of it, the president said it was Iraq which had violated the resolution once by attacking Iran after Baghdad had accepted it and then by creating obstructions like demanding direct talks. He said Iraq's sincerity of accepting the resolution should be really doubted.

The reason behind Iraq's renewed aggression against Iran after the latter's acceptance of the 598, he said, was that Baghdad was under the illusion that Iran was incapable of defending itself. "This is not true at all," the president stressed.

Referring to the recent nation-wide mass rallies to renew allegiance to Imam Khomeyni (last Tuesday), Khamene'i said Iran was now more strong than ever and that the revolution was growing and flourishing.

The president said the Baghdad regime had finally submitted to world pressure, adding that the U.N. Resolution 598 must be implemented without any preconditions.

Before the president's speech, welcoming the participants at the confab organised before Tehran had accepted the Security Council Resolution 598, Dr.

Kamal Kharrazi, chairman of the conference, hoped that the results will lead the path for a more just way to encounter aggressions in future.

Variety of topics like international law and the Iran-Iraq war, the EEC and the Iran-Iraq war, defensive arms in Islam, U.S. energy policies in the Persian Gulf, deployment of chemical weapons by Iraq, etc. will be discussed during the 3-day conference.

Kharrazi Addresses Meeting

LD0808130988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] The international conference on aggression and defense began its work this morning in the Azadi Hotel, Tehran, in the presence of Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and chairman of the Supreme Defence Council, intellectuals, scientists, and university lecturers from 20 countries, and a group of domestic officials and experts.

Mr Kharrazi, the chairman of the international conference on aggression and defense, explained the reasons for holding the conference. He said: Iran is a country which, during 8 years of Iraqi aggression, undertook a holy defense. The people of this country saw the aggression and the defense with their own eyes and experienced it themselves. The events that occurred in the course of the last few years must be examined from both an Islamic and an international rights viewpoint, and suitable solutions must be found to confront aggressors and to compensate victims.

Then Mr Khamene'i, the president and the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, expressed the hope that the conference would yield beneficial results for humanity, and described the problem of border incursions as one stemming from the mankind's heartlessness. He said: Consequently, it is necessary for intellectuals and humanists to address this problem. He added: The conference is being held in circumstances in which the world during the last 8 years witnessed a war between Iran and Iraq—a war which, had international circles had the necessary forethought, would not have occured or would not have lasted so long.

The president also said: Now that it appears that the war is nearing its end, the world must learn a lesson from this bitter experience and examine the dimensions of the initial aggression and the cause of the war; it must give some consideration to the fate of nations, revolutions, and to peaceful and safe borders that may be violated at any moment with a military attack. The president added: Iraq's military aggression against Iran occured at a very sensitive moment in Iranian history. The war was in fact against Iran's Islamic Revolution, and it had the aim of overturning the revolutionary government and of crushing the Islamic Revolution.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council added: If international circles do not resolve that task, then the world's intellectuals and thinkers must fill the vacuum. The Islamic Republic of Iran is prepared to participate and invest in the world's peace-seeking movements. In conclusion, Mr Khamene'i thanked the guests for participating in the conference.

Khamene'i, Army Commanders Review War Situation

LD0608144288 Tehran IRNA in English 1424 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug 6, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i reviewed the latest situation of the war fronts with Army field commanders in an operational theater today. The military commanders informed the president and head of the Supreme Defence Council (SDC) on readiness of their units and received the president's guidelines in return.

Khomeyni Letter of Praise Presented to Air Base

LD0808200888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] A written message of praise by His Holiness Imam Khomeyni praising the ceaseless fighting and bravery of the commander and pilots of Now Shahr air base in Hamadan, who played an important role in the Marsad operation, as well as in bombing Iraqi strategic locations, was given to the base commander in a ceremony this morning.

According to the Central News Unit, in a speech during the ceremony, which was attended by the base personnel and pilots, the base commander praised the sacrifice and high morale of the faithful personnel of the Air Force and declared that their efforts and sacrifice are active confirmation of allegiance to the imam of the ummah. At the conclusion of the ceremonies the head of base's politico-ideological department gave the written message of the imam to the base commander.

Further on Omani Minister of State's Visit

Holds Talks With Nabavi

LD0608152888 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 6, IRNA—Omanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah discussed Tehran-Muscat industrial needs, exchange of technical delegations and mutual trade on barter basis with Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nabavi here today.

In the meeting, the two sides stressed expansion of mutual technical, industrial and commercial cooperation.

'Alawi arrived here this morning on a week official visit.

Meets With Aqazadeh

LD0708203288 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 7, IRNA—Visiting Omanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah announced Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id's willingness to promote Iran-Oman cooperation, in a meeting with Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh here Sunday.

In response, Aqazadeh placed emphasis on the significance of solidarity among Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and said achieving sincere unity in OPEC's decision-making necessitates unsparing cooperation and efforts on the part of the OPEC members. "We are determined to play our role in realizing the aim," he stressed.

'Alawi also announced Omanese Minister of Petroleum and Minerals Sa'id Ahmad al-Shanfari's readiness to visit Iran, which was welcomed by the Iranian minister.

The Omanese minister arrived here yesterday at the head of a delegation for a week-long official visit.

Mo'ayeri Returns From Visits to Turkey, Greece

LD0608101488 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 6, IRNA—Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs, 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri here Saturday morning described stances adopted by Greece and Turkey towards Iran after its acceptance of the UN Security Council Resolution 598, as "positive".

Mo'ayeri returned home early this morning at the end of a five-day official visit to Turkey and Greece.

During his visit he met with Turkish and Greece Prime Ministers Turgut Ozal and Andreas Papandreou and submitted messages of Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi.

In an interview upon arrival, Mo'ayeri said that he discussed with the top officials of the two countries the latest developments concerning the resolution and obstacles created by Iraq on the way of its implementation.

He said these officials hailed Iran's acceptance of resolution and stressed that a lasting peace could be achieved only through accepting the resolution and cooperating with the UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

As head of the European Common Market, Greece denounced Iraq for repeated deployment of chemical weapons, Mo'ayeri said. Both Turkey and Greece expressed concerned over the recent Iraqi moves, he added.

Both Turkey and Greece expressed interest in further expanding their relations with Iran especially after the implementation of the resolution. They also made proposals for post-war cooperations.

In Athens Papandreou renewed his invitation to Prime Minister Musavi to visit Greece. The visit is expected to take place in autumn this year, he added.

A joint Iran-Greece cooperation commission will meet before Musavi's visit. The Iranian mission will be headed by Deputy Prime Minister for Executive Affairs, Hamid Mirzadeh.

Commentary Views Thatcher's Trip to Gulf

NC0508203088 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1610 GMT 5 Aug 88

[Unattributed commentary from the "Weekly Report" feature]

[Text] Margaret Thatcher arrived in Bahrain on the first day of last week, thus starting a fresh round of her regional visits. After the British prime minister's meeting with Shaykh Ahmad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahrain's crown prince, it was announced that the main objective behind Thatcher's visits to Oman and Bahrain centered on efforts aimed toward ending the Iran-Iraq war and on the Arab position on these efforts.

The Islamic Republic of Iran's acceptance of Resolution No 598 has been analyzed and commented on in various ways by various countries. Some welcomed the Islamic Republic's new position and have tried, by supporting the Security Council and the secretary general, to prepare the ground for achieving a lasting peace in the region and for implementing the principles of Resolution No 598. Others, namely the Soviet Union, chose a separate path and supported Saddam's warmongering position in a bid to gain privileges they wanted.

Meanwhile, Britain, which after accepting the positions that Iraq was the aggressor and trying for months to set up contacts with Iran, supported the Islamic Republic's new position on Resolution No 598 and attempted through channels under its influence to confront the Soviet stands.

Because of Britain's historically heavy influence in these countries, particularly Bahrain and Oman, Thatcher's visit there can serve to coordinate the West's policies in the region after Iran accepts the cease-fire.

As one of the paragraphs of Resolution No 598 refers to the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Persian Gulf, a close rivalry has already begun among France, Britain, and the United States to expand their infiltration in the region so that after the withdrawal of warships from the areas of influence, the balance of hegemony can remain. During her trips to Oman and Bahrain, Thatcher tried to fulfill all of Britain's objectives toward this goal.

Search for Airbus Recorder Terminated

LD0708191388 Tehran IRNA in English 1853 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Aug. 7, IRNA—The detector device on hire from Britain for tracing the black box of the U.S. downed Iranian Airbus has been sent back, due to virtual discontinuation of signals from the "black box", said a local airport official here today.

The black box is designed to emit signals normally for a month long period after an airplane's crash, and from there onwards signals become very faint but continue for another month, before being completely stopped.

On July 3, the routine Iran Air Flight 655 enroute to Dubayy was unmanly downed by the cruiser USS Vincennes in the Strait of Hormuz shortly after its take off from Bandar-e 'Abbas. All 290 passengers on board including 66 children and 38 foreigners lost their lives.

In related news, an exploration ship of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) involved in the black box search has dropped anchor at Lavan Island for repairing a damaged engine.

The ship equipped with computers, cameras, detectors, and other exploration devices will continue the search after necessary repairs, and will intensify its operations in an area of 150 square kilometers east of Hengam Island, the site the A-300 Airbus went down in Persian Gulf.

Meanwhile an informed source said here that since reasons for downing of the Iranian passenger plane are quite clear and even U.S. officials have confessed the unmanly crime by their fleet, Iran believes it does not need to spend such a great amount of money for the elusive search which so far has proved fruitless.

Bomber Repaired; Air Force 'Self-Sufficient'

LD0708220888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Thanks to the efforts of the faithful personnel of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a damaged fighter bomber has been repaired and had a test flight this afternoon in the presence of the Air Force commander. According to a Central News Unit report, during the test flight, carried out at an Air Force base, Brigadier General Sattari, Air Force commander, in an interview said:

Currently the Air Force is self-sufficient. The sacrificing personnel of this group have managed to completely repair damaged aircraft, and today we observe another one of the great fruits of such efforts.

More Volunteer Forces Leave for Battlefronts

Mobilization Personnel

LD0608172288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT Aug 88

[Text] In continuation of the departure of volunteer forces for the fronts, during the past 2 days a large group of mobilization department personnel of the Tonekabon, Ramsar, Abbasabad, and (Salmanshahr) Guards Corps left for the fronts. In addition, mobilization forces from Marvdasht left this morning.

Forces From Qom, Golpayegan

LD0708142088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that a large group of fresh popular forces, as part of the third extraordinary convoy of His Holiness Muhammad, Peace Be Upon Him, Corps, this morning left Qom for the fronts. Also large groups of combat specialists and trained mobilization forces, as part of the Allegiance to the Imam convoy, left Golpayegan today for the fronts.

Units From Cities, Districts

LD0708215700 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] In continuation of ceaseless departures of mobilization combat forces from across the country for the fronts, thousands of fresh popular forces left Tehran, Babol, Yazd, Hamadan, Malayer, Nahavand, and (Tuserkan) and districts of Bahar, Kabudarahang, Asadabad, Razan, Sara, (Khamenin), Sarkan, Khazan, and Samen for the fronts to join the capable warriors of Islam.

Forces Leave From Hamadan

LD0808195588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Popular forces continue to depart for the battlefronts. Today a group of combat forces from Hamadan Province left for our country's war zones. The Central News Unit also reports that this morning hundreds of trained mobilization forces left for the battlefronts.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Kurds 'Chemically Bombed'

LD0608100288 Tehran IRNA in English 0948 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Orumiyeh, W. Azarbayjan Prov., Aug. 6, IRNA—The Baghdad regime in a fresh attack has chemically bombed three Kurdish villages in Lulan region in northern Iraq in the past two days.

Over 63 victims, mainly young men who could walk through the border strip and enter Iran are being treated in Iranian hospitals in the border region. A great number of the afflicted women and children in critical conditions, are left in the raided village in mountainous areas of Iraq. They are deprived of medical services.

The three villages of Kani Rash, Zavvar [placename as received], and Serou [placename as received] are located 60 kms deep inside the Iraqi territory.

The Iraqi regime in the recent days has been using chemical weapons, banned throughout the world, in the northern areas especially against the Kurdish settlements.

Kurdish Operations Detailed

LD0808192088 Tehran IRNA in English 1842 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] London, Aug. 8, IRNA—The Iraqi Army with a 15,000 strong force has started a large scale offensive against guerrilla bases of Iraq's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) in the liberated zones of Shirwan and Sidakan [placename as received] districts in Irbil Province, said a statement released by KDP here today.

The Iraqi attack started on 5th August and is supported by war planes, tanks and heavy artillery. The Iraqi force is composed of 12 Army Brigades and 18 so called Light Battalions, it added.

According to reports received, the Iraqi Army has resorted to chemical weapons after some attempted attacks on the Kurdish guerrilla bases as a result of which many armed Kurdish dissidents and some civilians have lost their lives.

An informed source disclosed two villages "Siru," and "Zarwa" [placenames as received] near Shirwan have been completely evacuated because of Iraqi chemical attacks. The source estimated the chemical victims up to 1,000.

It added the battlefield is close to the Turkish frontier and as a result of heavy bombardment many Kurdish families have sought refuge in Turkey. "The Iraqi attack has been repulsed several times by our guerrillas," he noted.

So far 52 Iraqis including 4 officers have been taken prisoners and over 100 killed, anounced KDP.

After suffering several set backs, the Army resorted to poison gas which was used to bomb and shell KDP positions and the entire areas of Kani Rash, Ari and Daryasor [placenames as received]. Mustard and nerve gases were both used, the statement said adding the gas attacks have claimed the lives of many guerrillas as well as civilians. The fighting is still continuing.

It should be noted that 10 Iraqi Kurdish-populated villages in Shaqlawah, Irbil Province have been chemically attacked by Iraqi warplanes as a result of which some 11 civilians have been martyred and hundreds of others wounded.

Iraqi pilots dropped chemical bombs on Oshnoviyeh, Iran's West Azarbayjan Province last week, injuring over 2,000 civilians after the United Nations disclosed increased large-scale deployment of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime.

An Iraqi Kurdish source in a talk with IRNA here predicted Iraqi attacks would intensify in northern part of that country while the cease-fire date between Iraq and Iran is approaching.

The source, asked not to be named, disclosed leaders of Kurdish armed groups in Iraq and bring major part of their forces to Iran because of Iraqi army's threats.

Iraq Violates Ahvaz Airspace

LD0508183188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Aug 88

[Text] The Central News Unit reports from Ahvaz that at 1140 today Iraqi aircraft violated the airspace of Agha Jari, where they were confronted by the fire of the region's defenses. As they left Agha Jari's airspace the aircraft broke the sound barrier.

IRNA reports that Zionist Iraqi aircraft this afternoon violated Ahvaz airspace. The aircraft met with the timely reaction of the region's air defenses, and before they could embark on any action the aircraft were forced to flee.

Iraqi Warplanes Violate Airspace

LD0608173988 Tehran IRNA in English 1734 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Yasuj, Bovir Ahmadi va Kohkiluyeh Prov., Aug. 6, IRNA—Iraqi warplanes violated the airspace of Gachsaran and Bushehr at 12:30 hours local time Saturday. Flying at a high altitude the intruding Iraqi warplanes broke the sound barrier over the cities before being forced to flee by heavy anti-aircraft fire of the Muslim combatants.

Meanwhile, Iraqi warplanes also violated the airspace of Ahvaz, Khuzestan Province at 12:25 hours local time today but were driven away by the deadly anti-aircraft fire of Iran's combatants.

Iraqi Planes Repelled

LD0808101288 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Aug. 8, IRNA—Amid UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's efforts to establish cease-fire in Iraq-Iran war, Iraqi warplanes attempted to bomb non-military areas in Dasht-e Azadegan, northwest of here Monday, morning but were repelled.

The planes were intercepted with heavy fire of the air defence gunners and repelled before carrying out their bombing mission.

The intruding planes broke the city's sound barrier while fleeing.

Iraqi Planes Violate Airspace

LD0808110988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] According to report by the Central News Unit, the Iraqi regime's aircraft violated the airspace of the Khuzestan and Lorestan Provinces this morning. They were forced to flee the airspace of the country after facing heavy air defense fire situation in this region.

According to the same report, these aircraft broke the sound barrier over Dezful, Dasht-e Azadegan, and Pol-e Dokhtar, while leaving the airspace of Lorestan and Khuzestan Provinces.

Two Mojahedin-e Khalq Members Publicly Hanged

LD0508192088 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 5 Aug 88

[Text] Bakhtaran, August 5, IRNA—Two members of the outlawed Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO) were publicly hanged in Kangavar, (Bakhtaran Province), on Thursday.

At the time of the execution, the Muslim people of the town chanting "death to Monafiq" expressed their wrath and hatred towards the outlawed party.

15 MKO's have been hanged in Bakhtaran, Eslamabad, and Kangavar in Bakhtaran Province since the Marsad military operations.

According to another report, an exhibition opened in Imam Khomeyni Mosque in Semnan today. In the exhibition are displayed the anti-revolutionaries' propaganda devices, armaments, tele-communication sets, means of transportation, documents, and military designs seized intact by Iranian Muslim combatants in the course of the victorious Marsad operations.

Operation Against Mojahedin-e Khalq Detailed

LD0808200588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] The destruction of 1127 vehicles and armored units of the hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization], the capture of military equipment, the capture of a number of their leaders, and the annihilation of a large number of hypocrites are some of the heavy blows directed at the dealt the organization in the course of the Marsad operation.

The commander of Bakhtaran's 4th Be'sat Corps, in an interview with IRNA today, announcing the above added: To date 1734 hypocrites have been annihilated and identified, and their position in the organization and their noms de guerre discovered. Mentioning the heavy involvement by the hypocrites and their supporters in the recent plot, he said:

The hypocrites carried a considerable quantity of military equipment during the operations which included 200 armored personnel carriers and antiaircraft missiles, as well as technical and electronic equipment showing the investment made by the West in the plot.

Noting the defeat of the hypocrites in the operations he said: The insults traded between the leaders of the organization and their confessions show that politically and militarily their capabilities have been destroyed and that the organization is in chaos.

Noting the possibility of escape by some of the hypocrites to Iraq and the presence of some of them in the region, he said: So far, in the course of 137 investigations, 230 of them have been captured or annihilated in the Kerend-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab areas and efforts to capture the rest continue.

Paper on Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Hostages Cited

LD0808180288 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 1530 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] In the wake of the strengthening of Hashemi-Rafsanjani's faction and the implementation of his policy of closer relations with U.S. imperialists and efforts to win that country's support, the Lebanese weekly AL-SHIRA', which usually exposes the interfactional discords of the regime, has revealed some new reports in its latest edition.

According to an article in this weekly, following the recent developments in the Islamic Republic regime, Khomeyni has ordered that the former committee in charge of investigating the fate of the foreign hostages, which was run under the supervision of Khamene'i, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Mohsen Rafiqdust, and Mohsen Reza'i, should be dissolved, and all matters handled by this committee should be turned over to Hashemi-Rafsanjani alone.

According to AL-SHIRA', in the wake of these changes, intense discord has appeared among the Hizballah faction of Lebanon which is affiliated with the Khomeyni regime. In this same connection AL-SHIRA' reported on the arrest of two top officials of the terrorist group Islamic Jihad, which is the terrorist wing of the Lebanese Hizballah, by the Hizballah leaders.

One of the main causes of this discord is the collusion between the United States and Hashemi-Rafsanjani's faction and the role Hashemi-Rafsanjani intends to play in freeing the U.S. hostages in Lebanon.

Pakistan

2 Afghan Pilots Defect With MiG Aircraft

BK0808161088 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1605 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] An Afghan jet fighter landed at a Pakistani airfield near the Afghan border today. The two crewmen, who are defectors, landed their Soviet-built plane at Parachinar in the Kurram tribal area. They are now in Pakistan's custody.

MiG-21 Lands at Parachinar

BK0808122188 Hong Kong AFP in English 1214 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 8 (AFP)—Two Afghan Air Force pilots defected to Pakistan Monday after landing their MiG-21 aircraft at the northwest border town of Parachinar, according to Afghan rebel sources.

The news of the defection came as official sources said here that Pakistan was holding a Soviet pilot whose plane had been shot down last week southwest of Parachinar.

The rebel sources quoted the two Afghan Air Force pilots as saying that they had been ordered to carry out a bombing raid on Parachinar—a past target of Afghan Air Force strikes. "We were ordered to raid Parachinar, but we are Muslims therefore we did not carry out the bombardment to kill our Muslim brothers," one of the pilots was quoted as saying.

The MiG-21 landed at Parachinar airport at about 10 a.m. (0500 GMT) Monday, the sources said, adding that the two pilots were now in police custody.

No immediate official confirmation of the defection was available.

Official sources here said Monday that Pakistani officials were holding the Soviet pilot of an Afghan Air Force plane shot down last week during a bombing raid on refugee camps in Miram Shah, about 30 kilometres (18 miles) inside Pakistan territory and some 150 kilometres (90 miles) southwest of Parachinar.

The plane was shot down Thursday by a Pakistani F-16 fighter. The Soviet pilot bailed out and was captured by tribesmen in the Waziri autonomous tribal zone, press reports said.

The tribesmen handed him over to the Pakistani authorities in return for 50,000 rupees (2,700 U.S. dollars), the promise of a road for their village and two seats in the local administration, THE MUSLIM daily said.

The pilot was taken by helicopter to Islamabad.

In October, two Soviet helicopters landed in mountains near Chitral, in northern Pakistan. The six Soviet crewmen told Pakistani security forces they were lost and were swiftly handed over to the Soviet ambassador in Islamabad.

Bombing by Afghan planes left 13 Afghan refugees dead last week in raids near Miram Shah.

Further on Afghan Defectors

BK0808171288 Hong Kong AFP in English 1657 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Islamabad, Aug 8 (AFP)—Two Afghan Air Force officers on Monday flew a Soviet-made jet fighter to a border town in northwest Pakistan and requested political asylum, officials said. [passage omitted]

The two Afghan pilots, identified as Major Muneer and Captain Wasay [names as received], landed their MiG-19 [aircraft type as received] fighter Monday morning at Parachinar Air Base, west of here and close to the border with Afghanistan, officials said.

They added that the two had requested political asylum in Pakistan and had surrendered to the authorities after landing.

Eyewitnesses said ground forces at Parachinar had opened fire on the MiG-19 as it circled over the airport, thinking it was on a bombing raid. But the two pilots landed safely and immediately handed their pistols to the Kurram border militia troops.

Afghan rebel sources quoted the two as saying they had been sent to bomb targets in Afghanistan's Paktia Province, which faces Parachinar across the border. [passage omitted]

The pilots reportedly told their interrogators that two other planes had joined them in the mission originating from Baghram airbase in Kabul. They bombed Jaji and other places around Khowst.

Witnesses said one of plane followed them to Parachinar then turned back. [passage omitted]

Afghan Planes Cross Border, Bomb Refugee Camp
BK0908023788 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Three Afghan fighter aircraft last Tuesday [2 August] violated Pakistan's airspace and dropped seven bombs in the Razmak region, nearly 20 km southeast of North Waziristan. Four Afghan refugees died and three tents burned down.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office in Islamabad yesterday and a strong protest was lodged with him on this unprovoked attack.

President Says Troop Withdrawal on Schedule
BK0908083988 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that according to latest information, the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan is progressing according to schedule. Talking informally to newsmen on arrival at the Lahore Airport from Islamabad today, the president said that he was satisfied over the withdrawal of Soviet forces. On arrival, the president was received by the Punjab governor, Makhdoom Mohammad Sajjad Hussain Qureshi; the chief minister, Mr Nawaz Sharif; provincial ministers; and senior officials.

Later the president inaugurated the Kot Lakhpat overhead bridge over the Ferozepore road railway crossing which was then opened to traffic. The 700-feet-long bridge has been constructed at a cost of 3.65 million rupees.

Further on Yaqub Khan's News Conference
BK0608163688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the implementation of the Geneva accords and has stressed the need to establish an interim government acceptable to all strata of Afghan society, and one that will facilitate the return of the Afghan refugees to their homeland and guarantee peace in Afghanistan and the entire region. He was addressing a news conference at the airport on his return to Islamabad today after his visit to the United States and the Soviet Union.

The foreign minister said during his visit to the Soviet Union, he exchanged views with his Soviet counterpart, Shevardnadze, on positive trends on international scene and shared the views that the frequent bilateral exchanges are very useful for both the countries and should be maintained. Both sides affirmed the significance of the Geneva accords which has had a salutary effect on efforts to resolve problems in other parts of the world.

The foreign minister added that during his meetings with the Soviet leaders, he categorically rejected the baseless charges that Pakistan was violating the Geneva accords and not complying with them. In this context, he referred to the tours undertaken by the UN Good Offices Mission on Afghanistan and Pakistan to inspect 30 places inside Pakistan. The UN observers have said that they found no evidence or proof of weapons supply, the existence of training camps, or restrictions on Afghan refugees.

The Soviet complaints about the formation of an interim government [by rebels] is unjustified because Pakistan has not recognized any such government on its soil. However, the Afghan Alliance reserves the right to express its political viewpoint as a political organization of Afghanistan. Pakistan cannot be held responsible for developments inside Afghanistan. Pakistan has never given any assurance that it will stop sympathizing with the Afghan people, the foreign minister observed.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said he held discussions with his Soviet counterpart on Pakistani complaints about violations of Pakistani territory and airspace and the subversive activities of Afghan KHAD agents, a glaring example of international terrorism. He also expressed concern at the transfer of billions of dollars in weapons from the returning Soviet forces to the Afghan forces, a move contrary to the spirit of the Geneva accords.

The foreign minister said he stressed the need for better mutual understanding and for the promotion of mutual confidence, so that Pakistan-Soviet relations can be strengthened. He reaffirmed Pakistan's desire for cordial and mutually beneficial relations with the Soviet Union on the basis of respect for recognized principles to serve the cause of peace in the region.

About his talks in the United States, the foreign minister said during that during his meeting with President Reagan, the President reaffirmed the United States' firm support for Pakistan's solidarity and security, and referred to the historic success in the furtherance of freedom in Afghanistan.

U.S. leaders expressed full support for Pakistan, as both countries share identical perceptions on various issues. They also reaffirmed their commitment to fulfill the aid package for Pakistan. During the talks, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to fully implement the Geneva accords and expressed the hope that conditions will be created inside Afghanistan to facilitate the return of Afghan refugees to their homeland.

The foreign minister said during his meeting with the U.S.defense secretary, Frank Carlucci, regional issues and security were discussed. The U.S. defense secretary once again assured full U.S. assistance in the implementation of various programs of weapons sales to Pakistan under the $4.2 billion aid package and for the stability and security of the region.

The foreign minister said during his meeting with the U.S. leaders, he apprised them of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's commitment to promote democracy in Pakistan. They appreciated Pakistan's viewpoint and expressed happiness at the announcement of the date for elections.

Answering a question, Yaqub Khan said during his meetings with the U.S. leaders, he apprised them of Pakistan's concern at the anti-Pakistan propaganda campaign waged by Indian leaders in various countries and at the international level.

Yaqub Khan Leaves for Kathmandu SAARC Meeting

BK0908062588 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left Islamabad for Kathmandu a short while ago where he will lead the Pakistani delegation at the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation meeting.

Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Arrives With Message

BK0808155288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed arrived in Islamabad today. He is carrying a special message from President Jayewardene for President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. He met with Foreign Minister Sahbzada Yaqub Khan in Islamabad this afternoon. They exchanged views on the forthcoming SAARC foreign ministers conference [beginning in Kathmandu on 11 October] and the present South Asian security situation.

The Sri Lankan foreign minister apprised Sahabzada Yaqub Khan about the measures to solve the Tamil rebellion issue. The Pakistan foreign minister told Mr A.C.S. Hameed about the latest situation regarding the Afghanistan problem and the measures taken by Pakistan in connection with the implementation of the Geneva accords.

Calls on President

BK0908025488 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 9 Aug 88

[Text] Sri Lanka's foreign minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi yesterday evening. They held talks on bilateral matters, particularly on steps to strengthen the ties between Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The Sri Lankan foreign minister delivered a message of goodwill from President Jayewardene to the Pakistani president. The president reciprocated by expressing similar feelings.

Bomb Blast Near Peshawar Kills 2 Children

BK0808083088 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 0800 GMT 8 Aug 88

[Text] There was a bomb blast at Warsak Road near Peshawar this morning. Two children were reported killed. According to police sources the bomb was wrapped in a sack and went off when the children were playing near village (Damrangi), 5 kilometers from Peshawar.

Iranian Official Attends Al-Hussaini Funeral

LD0708092288 Tehran IRNA in English 0740 GMT 7 Aug 88

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 7, IRNA—A funeral was held Saturday for the last Pakistani 'alim, 'Allamah Seyyed 'Arif Hussain al-Hussaini, in Peshawar where he was martyred last Friday by unidentified gunmen.

The ceremony was attended by President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan, thousands of the martyred scholar's followers, as well as ulema and other Pakistani officials.

Those attending the procession were chanting slogans against the United States and the House of Al Sa'ud. They also called for revenge.

Addressing the gathering, son of the martyred 'Allamah al-Hussaini held U.S. imperialism responsible for death of his father. He said his late father always called for the unity of the Muslims against U.S. imperialism.

Head of Iran's Islamic Propagation Organisation Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati also attended the ceremony on behalf of the leader of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeyni.

Ayatollah Jannati conveyed condolences of Imam Khomeyni, Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri and other Iranian officials to the family members of the late Al-Hussaini and the Pakistani Muslims. He expressed hope that the blood of martyr Al-Hussaini will further strengthen the ranks of the Muslims.

At the end of the ceremony, Ayatollah Jannati also led prayers for the martyr Al-Hussaini.

Sri Lanka

Jayewardene on Third Term, LTTE, Elections

BK0708152088 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 25 Jul 88 pp 1, 12

[Boldface as published]

[Text] In a wide ranging interview over Rupavahini [Television] last night, President Jayewardene said he had not yet decided whether to seek a third term, even if parliament enabled him to do so by an amendment to the constitution. He said many people were asking him to stand for a third term.

He said a general election need not be held until August 1989, but the presidential election had to be held by the end of this year. Neither he nor the government could be extended without the people's consent at a referendum. It was not proposed to hold such a referendum.

He said the President had the discretion, under the constitution, of advancing a parliamentary election. He had still taken no decision whether he would advance this election.

The interview, which was conducted by State Minister Anandatissa de Alwis, dealt with a number of matters including the Indo-Lanka Accord, elections to the North-East Provincial Council, settlement policies, re-settlement of refugees and repatriation and citizenship under the Indo-Sri Lanka Pact.

The following is the text of the interview.

Question: Mr. President, one year has elapsed since the signing of the Indo-Lanka Peace Accord. Therefore we thought it appropriate to discuss it. Do you think the accord has borne any important results?

Answer: At the time we signed the accord there were six terrorist groups fighting against the government. They all accepted the accord. After one month, one group—the LTTE—opposed it. Other groups did not shift their stand and we pardoned them.

These five groups are prepared to enter the democratic process and contest elections. Therefore the situation has changed for the better. Only one terrorist group is opposing the accord now.

Q: Elections to seven provincial councils have already been held under the terms of the accord. Elections have still to be held only in respect of two more provinces. If elections to the Southern Provincial Council could be held inspite of terrorist activity there, why not elections in the north and east, despite terrorism there?

A: The situation in the north and east is quite different from that in the south.

As regards electorates in the north, people there elected MPs who subscribed to Eelam [Free Tamil Land]. People in the east voted for the UNP, but there too, a majority backed Eelam policies. Therefore people in the north and east are sympathetic towards the terrorists.

What's happening in the south is the killing of individuals. The two situations therefore are not similar.

Q: Lankan Tamils are criticising the Lankan government from Indian soil, saying that the government is settling Sinhalese in the north and east by force. Are such statements an infringement of the peace accord?

A: We will not stop settling Sinhalese. The accord says that Sinhalese, Tamils and Muslims should be settled in these areas according to the prevailing ethnic ratio.

However, it would be wrong to settle 100 percent Sinhalese in Tamil areas. The government believes that settlement of people should be according to the ethnic balance. Sri Lanka belongs to all communities living in the country—not only to the Sinhalese, Tamils or Muslims.

Therefore people of these communities should have the right to go and settle in any part of the country they choose. We will never change that policy.

Q: Some say the provincial councils were set up in Sinhala areas, as a result of the Indo-Lanka accord. But you have said that the provincial council system existed in the country even prior to the accord. Can you please elaborate.

A: We considered this system long ago. The late Mr. S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, in a speech he made in Jaffna, shortly after his return from England, said there was a possibility of communal problems arising in the country in future. He said this could easily be prevented by setting up provincial councils as in Switzerland and Australia.

Later, many groups who gave evidence before the Donoughmore Commission urged the setting up of provincial councils. When the late Mr. S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike was Minister of Local Government, he brought in special legislation to set them up.

Therefore the provincial council system is a very old idea which existed in this country long before the peace accord. Our party accepted this system for the first time at the All Party Conference.

Q: That means the provincial councils are not a direct result of the peace accord?

A: Yes.

Q: The majority of people in this country are now talking about elections. I think you have taken a decision about it. Would you like to explain in detail when and how elections will be held.

A: The presidential election has to be held before the end of this year. Either I or the government cannot extend it without consulting the people at a referendum. We don't propose to hold a referendum on this. The general elections need not be held until August 1989.

Q: Parliamentary elections?

A: Yes. According to the constitution, the president has the option to decide whether to advance their date of parliamentary elections. I still have not taken a decision on this.

Q: Many people are speculating about the President seeking a third term. Do you like to answer this question?

A: A lot of people are questioning me about this, asking me to seek a third term. But according to the constitution I cannot contest this presidential election again.

Parliament however can change this law by a two-thirds majority. I still don't know whether parliament will do so. And I have still not decided whether I will contest even if parliament changes that law.

Q: Do you think the constitution has to be amended for this?

A: Yes.

Q: There's another related question. Could you say something about the program to assist Sinhala and Tamil refugees who fled Trincomalee in the face of terrorist attacks and took refuge in Vavuniya and Anuradhapura.

A: They will be re-settled in their areas. I heard a few days ago that a majority of these Sinhala and Muslim families had already returned to Trincomalee.

There are certain difficulties within Trincomalee town. But in other parts of Trincomalee, those who have been re-settled have had no problems.

Many foreign countries have volunteered assistance in our rehabilitation program and already contributed funds to it. We hope to continue the rehabilitation program systematically.

Q: Do you think the re-settlement program can be completed in time for the elections?

A: Yes.

Q: If it is not completed, what about the votes of the registered voters in those districts.

A: They will be given an opportunity to vote from their present place of residence.

Q: That means a registered voter will be able to vote wherever he lives.

A: Yes.

Q: But isn't special legislation necessary to make that possible?

A: The necessary legislation will be enacted.

Q: Government servants and election officers have a right to cast their vote wherever they reside. But if a resident of Trincomalee is now living in Colombo, a question arises—how does he cast his vote?

A: Muslims and Tamils faced this situation.

Q: They also had a right.

A: Although they did not come to the south, they were not in the village.

Q: What about those who fled to India?

A: I think they also cast their vote, but it will be difficult when they are out of the country.

Q: Mr. President, one final question: according to the Indo-Sri Lanka pact, several lakhs of Indian labour in the plantations had to be repatriated to India, while several lakhs of others had to be granted Sri Lankan citizenship.

Now the two countries are accusing each other of having failed to implement this agreement. What do you think?

A: Under the terms of the pact, 600,000 have to be granted Indian citizenship and 375,000 have to be granted Sri Lankan citizenship.

But those numbers have not been granted either Indian or Sri Lankan citizenship. The fault lies not with state officials but individual Indian workers.

It is difficult to trace where they are living in Sri Lanka. Some are hiding. Some are in the north and others in the east.

They are not granted citizenship by compulsion.

They have to come on their own and claim citizenship. That's the difficulty.

Q: That's why there is a delay in implementation?

A: Yes.

Q: That means the government or its officials are not at fault?

A: Exactly.

Fighting Erupts Between LTTE, TELO; 2 Killed

BK0608094288 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0749 GMT 6 Aug 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Excerpt] Colombo,6 Aug (LANKAPUVATH)—Fighting erupted yesterday in northern Sri Lanka between the LTTE and its main terrorist rival, TELO, resulting in 2 LTTE cadres being killed.

Over 300 TELO terrorists, including its leader Sabaratnam (Tall Saba) were eliminated by the LTTE in a wave of mass killings in 1986.

Official sources told LANKAPUVATH that a battle between the two rival gangs of terrorists took place at 1400 hours (local time) at Paranthan in the Kilinochchi District Thursday in which the 2 LTTE men were shot dead.

In another confrontation yesterday (Friday) (?between the) LTTE and TELO, a few miles away in an area north west of Paranthan [number indistinct] TELO cadres were wounded.

Meanwhile more LTTE cadres committed suicide Friday, official sources said quoting radio intercepts of LTTE messages. [passage omitted]

Indian Forces To Move Against LTTE Missiles

BK0608040088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0309 GMT 6 Aug 88

[By Amal Jayasinghe]

[Excerpts] Colombo, Aug 6 (AFP)—The capture of a sophisticated anti-aircraft missile from Sri Lankan Tamil rebels has embarrased India and forced it to take counter measures to protect its aircraft, officials here say.

Indian commandos captured a Soviet-made SAM-7 (surface-to-air missile) launcher and a missile from the dominant Tamil separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in northern Nallur Village Tuesday [2 August].

"It does not make sense for the Tigers to have only one SAM. They must have more and probably are waiting for an opportunity to down one of our aircraft," an Indian official said.

He said Indian aircraft operating in the island's northern and eastern provinces where Tamil guerillas are battling some 49,000 Indian troops were now taking "certain precautionary measures." He did not elaborate.

"If they (the Tigers) are going to use SAMs, our forces are capable of responding to it," Indian high commissioner (ambassador) here J.N. Dixit told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE Friday.

He said investigations were still underway to determine the origin and source of the SAM acquired by the LTTE.

Mr. Dixit's remarks came a day after Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi announced India was "a little tired" of trying to get the LTTE to the negotiating table to end the 10-month guerrilla war in Sri Lanka.

Mr. Dixit said: "There is no stable and consistant stand in the LTTE's negotiating approach... The young men seem absolutely determined to continue the blood bath."

Asked if this meant a stepping up of military action against the Tigers, Mr. Dixit said: "The pressure on the LTTE is already there. It is a question of prolonging the pressure."

He said the Tigers' SAM was a "fairly new induction" and added that "some motivated agency, organisation or entity" must have supplied it.

Indian defence sources here said the captured SAM had a range of nine to 10 kilometers (5.6 miles to 6.25 miles) and was shoulder-fired with a heat seeking device homing in on its target.

It was the first time that a missile of its kind had been found in the possession of the LTTE in Sri Lanka, security sources said. [passage omitted]

Indian officials here privately say they did not want to make a "media event" of the discovery because it has also highlighted "certain security lapses" causing embarrassment to Indian troops.

Helicopter gunships have been a favourite and a most effective weapon against Tigers who set off landmines against ground troops. LTTE fighters have tried unsuccessfully to bring down Indian and Sri Lankan aircraft with small-arms fire. [passage omitted]

LTTE Leader Orders Attack on Indian Soldiers

BK0508103988 Colombo SUN in English 28 Jul 88 p 1

[Text] Security sources have intercepted a secret radio message from the LTTE leader V. Prabhakaran to his rank and file instructing them to launch a major attack on the IPKF and stage a hartal [strike] in the Northern and the Eastern Provinces on July 29 and 30.

Indian forces in the two provinces have been put on maximum alert and further strengthened to meet any violence by the LTTE.

Meanwhile, two of the three Tamil militant groups which collaborated with the IPKF after the peace accord have either refrained from doing so or began to oppose the Indian army. TELO is openly attacking the IPKF while PLOTE has distanced itself from the Indians leaving only EPRLF to cooperate with them.

The IPKF anti-terrorist operations continued in Batticaloa yesterday also.

Red Cross Official, Driver Killed in LTTE Attack
BK0508030088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Aug 88

[Text] In Sri Lanka, LTTE men attacked a Red Cross jeep yesterday in the Vavuniya sector, killing a senior Red Cross official and the driver. A doctor was seriously wounded. A PKF spokesman told our correspondent that a hard-core militant was killed and another arrested in the Jaffna sector during PKF operations. Three hard-core militants were arrested from their hideouts.

Prime Minister Returns From Foreign Tour
BK0608115988 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 6 Aug 88

[Excerpt] The prime minister, accompanied by Mrs Hema Premadasa, returned to the island last night after official visits to Australia, New Zealand, and Malaysia. While in Australia, he participated in Sri Lanka Day ceremony at Expo 88 in Brisbane.

The prime minister had official talks with the prime ministers of the three countries on bilateral issues, which included the promotion of trade, cultural exchange, and the strengthening of economic and technical cooperation. [passage omitted]